

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.

(b) Give particular attention to any problems of inter-agency co-ordination at the regional level and to work out, in close consultation with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies in specific sectors, proposals for improved co-ordination at the regional level;

(c) Work out proposals for the establishment of a closer intergovernmental linkage between the regional commissions and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in determining United Nations regional programmes so that the Commission's decisions on policies and programmes in the economic and social fields are taken fully into account;

3. Decides that the existing nine legislative committees of the Commission be reduced to seven, which, tentatively, would meet once every two years for five working days, and authorizes the Executive Secretary to take steps to implement this decision by December 1988;

4. Decides that sessions of the Commission continue to be held on an annual basis and that the duration be shortened to nine or eight working days, as necessary;

5. Decides further to review the conference structure at its forty-sixth session and requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at that session on the effectiveness of the conference structure;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to pay special attention to the need to implement reorganization and rationalization programmes to improve the performance of the secretariat in the implementation of the programme of work and priorities, through suitable measures, including evaluation;

(b) To continue to work out proposals for selective economies concerning the volume and number of documents in consultation with the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission;

7. Further requests the Executive Secretary to transmit this resolution to

the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council within thirty days as a report to the Special Commission along with his report as referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution and a summary record of the discussion on agenda item 12 of the forty-third session, and to report on the implementation of this resolution to the Commission at its forty-fourth session for its review.

661st meeting
30 April 1987

263 (XLIII). Social aspects of human resources development^{5/}

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

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

Recalling also Commission resolutions 217 (XXXVII) of 19 March 1981 on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries, 247 (XLII) of 1 May 1986 on forecasting, planning and development of technological human resources, and 256 (XLII) of 2 May 1986 on the ESCAP Plan of Action on National and Regional Initiatives for Human Resources Development: Its Technological Dimensions,

Taking into account the deliberations on the problems of human resources development in the Asian and Pacific region at its forty-second session and the current session,

Emphasizing the pressing need to give greater attention to the social aspects of human resources development, such as employment, education, training of qualified national personnel, health and nutrition, income distribution, housing, social status of women, the disabled, children, youth and the aging,

1. Commends the secretariat on the preparation of the comprehensive study in the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1986* on "Human resources development in Asia and the Pacific: problems, policies and perspectives";

^{5/} See paras. 218-237 above.