

(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.

2. Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to make arrangements to introduce in the *Social Development Newsletter* a section dealing with different social aspects of human resources development, in particular children, the role of qualified national personnel, raising the social status of women, and the role of governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in human resources development;

3. Also requests members and associate members to submit to the Executive Secretary, on a voluntary basis, when and where feasible, national reports

containing updated information on the human resources development situation in their respective countries and areas and articulating the existing problems and needs in that field;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to prepare an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its forty-fourth session and a final report for submission at its forty-seventh session.

661st meeting
30 April 1987