

generating the demand for transport and communications,

Recognizing the role of other United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and international organizations concerned with transport and communications in the formulation, planning and execution of projects within their mandate undertaken in conjunction with the Decade,

Also recognizing that the report of the mid-term review of the Decade confirms that the immediate objectives of the Decade remain fully valid at the mid-point of the Decade,

Noting with appreciation the support provided so far for the Decade's programmes by the members and associate members of ESCAP, as well as by the donor countries and agencies,

Also noting the recommendations contained in the report of the mid-term review of the Decade,

1. *Decides* that the programmes for the second quinquennium of the Decade should be redesigned and implemented in such a way as both to avoid the shortcomings identified during the first quinquennium and to take into account the anticipated development of the transport and communications sectors in the region over the remaining period of the Decade;

2. *Also decides* that the period of the second quinquennium of the Decade is to be modified to 1992-1996 to coincide with the period of the medium-term plan, 1992-1997, to enable adequate preparation to be made for the regional action programme;

3. *Invites* all members and associate members to participate actively in the implementation of the programmes for the Decade;

4. *Supports* the convening of a meeting of ministers responsible for transport and communications in 1992 to consider and recommend to the Commission the regional action programme for the remainder of the Decade;

5. *Invites* donor countries and agencies to provide the requisite funds to enable the Commission to implement a regional action programme for the Decade and its activities of greater impact in the field of transport and communications for the remainder of the Decade;

6. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme to provide funds in particular from its Special Programme Resources for developing the regional action programme;

7. *Invites* all United Nations organizations and specialized agencies concerned with the development of transport and communications in the region to cooperate and coordinate their activities with the secretariat in the implementation of the programmes for the Decade, paying special attention to the particular transport and communications problems of the least developed, land-locked and Pacific island countries;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To take the lead role in the coordination, monitoring and reporting of the Decade as recommended in the report of the mid-term review;

(b) To develop a close link with the international financial institutions for the implementation of the regional action programme for the Decade;

(c) To encourage the active participation of existing subregional groupings of the region in formulating and implementing the Decade activities within their respective subregions in coordination with the secretariat;

(d) To associate national institutions concerned with transport and communications with the implementation of the Decade activities;

(e) To promote the active involvement of commercial sectors in the implementation of the Decade;

(f) To ensure adequate manpower resources to strengthen the capability of the secretariat to monitor, coordinate and report on the Decade, as well as to provide technical assistance;

(g) To report to the Commission at its annual sessions until the last year of the Decade on the implementation of the Decade;

9. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to undertake an evaluation of the Decade after its completion and to submit his report, with appropriate recommendations, to the Commission at its subsequent session;

10. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-eighth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

724th meeting
10 April 1991

47/11. *Interregional cooperation in the area of trade facilitation*¹¹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Conscious of the importance of trade facilitation measures as a means of making international trade efficient and cost-effective, and of the developments in new technologies and their application in the conduct of international trade,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/118 on interregional cooperation for facilitation of international trade, in which the Council directed the regional commissions to formulate, jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, a project proposal for interregional cooperation, including the detailing of the technical

¹¹ See para. 467 above.

and resource requirements in the area of trade facilitation, and in particular the phased application of the Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (EDIFACT) wherever appropriate,

Noting that the Economic and Social Council, at its session in July 1990, adopted resolution 1990/74, supporting the implementation of the project proposal on interregional cooperation by the participating African countries and requesting other regional commissions to further consider Council resolution 1989/118,

Recalling the endorsement by the Commission, at its forty-sixth session, of the project concept and objectives for interregional cooperation in the area of trade facilitation, prepared in accordance with the directives contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/118,

Recognizing that the ESCAP regional trade facilitation network will soon be operative and that it will, *inter alia*, act as a focal point for trade facilitation efforts in the ESCAP region,

Conscious also of the fact that most of the developed and some developing economies in this region have either started or are endeavouring to adopt EDIFACT in the conduct of their international trade and that most of the developing economies still need urgent attention and assistance from the United Nations system in the rationalization of their trade documentation and procedures, and, thereafter, in taking appropriate steps towards the application of new technology in the transmission of trade documentation,

Also recognizing that the trade facilitation measures and electronic data interchange standards should be applied uniformly by all countries and that to this end the countries and areas of the ESCAP region need to cooperate effectively among themselves and with the rest of the world,

1. *Reiterates* its endorsement of the four components and eight objectives of the project proposal on interregional cooperation in the area of trade facilitation, set out in the document on interregional cooperation in trade submitted to the Commission at its forty-sixth session;

2. *Requests* the United Nations Economic and Social Council to endorse the present resolution and make appropriate recommendations for funding by donors;

3. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme, and other multilateral and bilateral donors, to provide adequate resources to ensure the full realization of the project;

4. *Invites* all Members of the United Nations to support this project proposal;

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

47/12. Regional follow-up of the World Summit for Children¹²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 45/217 of 21 December 1990 on the World Summit for Children,

Welcoming the adoption by the World Summit for Children, on 30 September 1990, of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for its implementation in the 1990s,

Recalling its resolution 45/1 of 5 April 1989 on a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/6, of 13 June 1990, on the integration of women in all aspects of development, 46/5, of 13 June 1990, on regional follow-up of the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs, and 274 (XLIV), of 20 April 1988, on the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region,

Bearing in mind its decision to convene the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development at Manila in 1991 to consider and adopt a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond,

Also bearing in mind the importance of the World Declaration, as well as its relevance to a social development strategy for the ESCAP region,

1. *Calls upon* all members and associate members, and all concerned international bodies and agencies, to work for the achievement of the goals and objectives endorsed in the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for its implementation, as an integral part of their national plans and international cooperation;

2. *Urges* all international development agencies, multilateral, bilateral and non-governmental, to assist the developing countries of the ESCAP region in the achievement of the goals and strategies enunciated in the World Declaration and Plan of Action;

3. *Notes with appreciation* that the United Nations Children's Fund intends to be represented at a high level and to cooperate in the preparations for the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, including the submission of a background study on the special needs of children in the ESCAP region in the light of the World Declaration and the Plan of Action;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to ensure that appropriate consideration is given by the Ministerial Conference, in its deliberations on a social