

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 Children<sup>12</sup>**

*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

development strategy for the ESCAP region, to the World Declaration and the Plan of Action;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, in close collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund, to ensure that the action taken by all members and associate members in response to the concerns for the survival, protection and development of children as enunciated in the World Declaration and Plan of Action are monitored as part of the implementation of a regional social development strategy.

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10 April 1991

#### **47/13. International Year of the Family<sup>13</sup>**

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

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 44/82 of 8 December 1989 proclaiming 1994 as International Year of the Family,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 45/133 of 14 December 1990, inviting all Governments, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as interested national organizations, to exert all possible efforts in the preparation for and observance of the Year and to cooperate with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the Year,

*Further recalling* Commission resolution 45/1 of 5 April 1989 on a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond, in which the Commission urged the Executive Secretary to incorporate in the strategy careful consideration of the family in development and of the pivotal role of that basic social institution,

*Recognizing* the importance of ensuring the realization within the family of the principles affirmed in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989,

*Reiterating* the importance of the family as the basic social unit for socio-economic development and

the need for all Governments to devise policies specifically in support of the attainment of national development objectives regarding the family,

*Bearing in mind* that the Year will offer a unique opportunity for mobilizing efforts, particularly at the local and national levels, to highlight the importance of the family, to promote a better understanding of its functions and role in development, and to strengthen national institutions to formulate, implement and monitor policies in respect of the family,

*Recognizing* that for the Year to be successful and for its impact and practical efficiency to be maximized, adequate preparation and region-wide support are required,

1. *Urges* all members and associate members to take prompt action to establish national coordinating mechanisms to prepare for, observe and follow up the Year of the Family, in particular for the purpose of planning, stimulating and harmonizing the activities of all governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations concerned with the preparation for and observance of the Year;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convene in 1993 a regional intergovernmental preparatory meeting of members and associate members of the Commission for the observance of the Year;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To initiate, in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other concerned agencies, a series of country studies on the role of the family in development to provide a basis for formulating proposals for regional action on preparation for and observance of the Year;

(b) To liaise with the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna concerning regional preparations for observance and follow-up of the Year;

(c) To constitute an inter-agency committee consisting of representatives of the regional offices of all concerned United Nations bodies and agencies to coordinate their activities in preparation for and observance of the Year;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

724th meeting  
10 April 1991

<sup>13</sup> See para. 574 above.