

2. *Urges* the participating members and associate members of the Commission to continue their support to the network of regional cooperation and coordination mechanisms established under the Regional Remote Sensing Programme;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to incorporate remote sensing and geographic information systems applications as a regular programme activity, and also to mobilize extrabudgetary funds from the United Nations Development Programme and other donors to ensure quality planning and management of activities focusing on the multisectoral dimensions of space applications involving, *inter alia*, remote sensing and geographic information systems, natural resources management, natural disaster reduction, environmental monitoring and planning, technology, agriculture and human settlements.

724th meeting  
10 April 1991

**47/9. International cooperation on labour migration between the ESCAP and ESCWA regions<sup>9</sup>**

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

*Recognizing* that labour migration from the developing countries of the ESCAP region to other regions has provided many developing countries of the region with new employment opportunities and balance-of-payments support,

*Appreciating* the usefulness of the activities that the secretariat has carried out to assist countries in the region in their efforts to promote and regulate labour migration, and noting also the valuable work undertaken by the International Labour Organisation and other international agencies,

*Aware* of the mutually beneficial relationship that has developed between the labour-exporting developing countries of the ESCAP region and the labour-importing countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia region,

*Stressing* the mutual benefits that can accrue to the labour-importing countries by helping them to overcome their critical labour shortages, and to the labour surplus countries by providing employment opportunities and remittances,

*Concerned* at the disruption that the Persian Gulf conflict has caused to labour migration between the ESCAP and ESCWA regions, and noting the opportunities available to countries in both regions, in the aftermath of that conflict, to revitalize the interregional labour migration process along lines more beneficial to development in both regions and more supportive of the social needs of migrating labourers and their families,

<sup>9</sup> See para. 542 above.

1. *Urges* the developing members and associate members of ESCAP to promote understanding and cooperation among themselves and between themselves and the countries in the ESCWA region concerning the interregional migration of workers, and make concerted efforts to resolve the problems that those workers face;

2. *Also urges* the international community to provide financial and technical assistance to the developing countries of the ESCAP region, particularly the least developed countries, which have been affected by the disruption caused to labour migration by the Persian Gulf conflict;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in close consultation with the Executive Secretary of ESCWA:

(a) To undertake a thorough analysis of the demographic, economic and social policy issues involved in labour migration between the ESCAP and ESCWA regions with a view to identifying means to enhance the benefits to both the labour-exporting and labour-importing countries, specifically drawing upon earlier studies undertaken by ESCAP and the relevant international organizations in this area;

(b) To promote a dialogue between the countries concerned in the ESCAP and ESCWA regions on policy issues, with the objectives of maximizing the mutual benefits and minimizing the costs involved in the process of international labour migration;

(c) To report to the Commission at its forty-ninth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution;

4. *Invites* donor Governments and organizations to provide the necessary extrabudgetary resources to the secretariat for the implementation of this resolution.

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10 April 1991

**47/10. Phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994<sup>10</sup>**

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

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 39/227 of 18 December 1984 proclaiming the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, and Commission resolution 236 (XL) of 27 April 1984 on the Decade,

*Reaffirming* the critical role of transport and communications in economic development and the importance, therefore, of the improvement and growth of transport and communications infrastructure and services in a manner commensurate with the anticipated growth of all sectors of the economy

<sup>10</sup> See para. 644 above.