

(b) Social development problems that flow from economic adjustment and reform programmes;

(c) Market development and trade promotion to broaden the export potential of the Pacific island economies.

739th meeting
23 April 1992

48/10. Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair (ASPAT)¹⁰

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recognizing the value of international trade fairs in strengthening regional economic cooperation through the promotion of intraregional and international trade,

Recalling that the successful international trade fairs held at Bangkok in 1966, Tehran in 1969, New Delhi in 1972 and Beijing in 1985 played a very positive role in fostering economic cooperation and trade relations among all members and associate members of the Commission, and in developing their economies,

Recognizing the increasingly active economic and trade interaction among members and associate members of the Commission,

Recalling its resolution 248 (XLII) of 2 May 1986 on the Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair (ASPAT), in which it requested the Executive Secretary to help organize the holding of a regional trade fair at appropriate intervals, preferably once in every three to five years,

Convinced that the next Fair will provide an opportunity to project the changes in the pattern of trade and review the technological developments and industrial restructuring in the region since the 1985 Fair, in order to highlight the increasing intraregional trade complementarities emerging therefrom,

Realizing the necessity of holding the fifth Fair in 1994,

Expressing appreciation to the Government of China for its generous offer to host the next Fair,

1. *Decides* that the fifth Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair will be held at Beijing in 1994;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to extend all possible assistance to the Fair, subject to available financial resources, and to approach the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and bilateral donors with regard to the extension of financial support to the Fair;

3. *Calls upon* all Governments of members and associate members of the Commission and other members of the United Nations to give full support to the fifth Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair, and to encourage and assist their industrial and commercial organizations to participate in the Fair.

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48/11. Road and rail transport modes in relation to facilitation measures¹¹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Considering that it is in the interests of all concerned countries in the region to promote international trade, tourism and transport,

Noting that large divergences between national transport facilitation measures exist in the region,

Being aware that international coordination and cooperation in the field of transport facilitation could contribute effectively to the development of international trade and transport in the region,

Recognizing that harmonized transport facilitation measures at the national and international levels are a prerequisite for enhancing international trade and transport along road and rail routes of international importance,

Desiring to secure the greatest possible simplification and harmonization of international land transport regulations and procedures in the region,

Noting that a large number of international agreements and conventions already exist in the field of transport facilitation, to which countries in the region may wish to accede or whose provisions could be used as an example for similar regional agreements and conventions,

1. *Recommends* that the countries in the region, if they have not already done so, consider the possibility of acceding to the following:

¹⁰ See paras. 447 above.

¹¹ See paras. 603 above.

The Convention on Road Traffic of 1968, and the Convention on Road Signs and Signals of 1968

International customs transit regimes, such as those stipulated in the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention) of 1975 (as recommended in Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/79 of 27 July 1984)

The Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles of 1956 (currently under review) and the Customs Convention on Containers of 1972, to enact facilities for the temporary importation of goods road vehicles and loading units

The International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Control of Goods of 1982, as a legal framework for the harmonization of such operations to minimize border control measures in international transport, harmonize their inspection requirements, and to provide, if possible, for joint inspection locations

The Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) of 1956, to establish internationally acceptable regulations on the legal relationship between road carriers and consignees or consignors;

2. *Also recommends* that the secretariat should examine the needs of individual countries or groups of countries in relation to the adoption of facilitation measures in the field of road and rail transport and, at the request of Governments, provide advisory services, and convene expert group meetings to consider problems, bottlenecks and facilitation measures in the field of road and rail transport.

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48/12. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields: role and functions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific¹²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Taking note of section IV of the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/235 of 13 April 1992 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and particularly paragraph 6, in which it was stated that the effectiveness of the regional commissions should be strengthened and that the regional commissions, particularly those located in developing countries, should also be strengthened in terms of their activities and participation in operational activities of the United Nations system, and in which the regional commissions were requested to provide recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session,

Directs, in view of the time constraints of the present Commission session, the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission, as an exceptional case:

(a) To seek the views of members and associate members on the General Assembly resolution;

(b) To draft a response to the General Assembly;

(c) To submit the draft response for consideration by members and associate members;

(d) To convey the response through the Executive Secretary to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

(e) To report to the Commission at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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¹² See paras. 189 above.