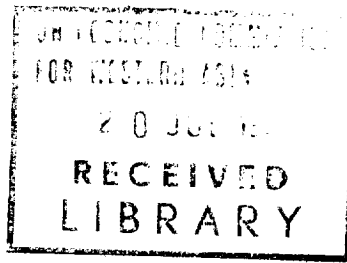


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Fifth Session

2 - 6 October 1978

Amman, Jordan

Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda

Invitation of States Members of the United Nations to
Participate in a consultative capacity
in the Commission's work

(Note from the Executive Secretary)

1. On 2 October 1978 the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Western Asia received the following letter from the head of the delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the fifth session of the Commission.

"The delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia presents its compliments to the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Western Asia. In view of the desire of the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to support the application of the Islamic World League in Mecca to be invited to attend the Commission's sessions and to participate in their subsidiary meetings as a consultant observer, the delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia calls upon the secretariat to include the League in the list of States and organizations not members of the Commission to attend this session and requests that this application be officially registered with the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Western Asia.

The delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia takes this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration.

2 October 1978

Head of the Delegation of the Kingdom of
Saudi Arabia
Talib Rafiq Sadiq"

2. The principle governing the invitation of States members of the United Nations not members of the Commission to participate in the Commission's discussions is laid down in paragraph 4 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council resolution 1818 (IV) under which the Commission was established and its terms of reference defined. The principles governing the invitation of non-governmental organizations and specialized agencies are laid down in paragraphs 5 and 7 of the above resolution.

3. Section XII of the Commission's provisional rules of procedure contains rules 63-66 which stipulate the method of "participation of non-member States" in the Commission's deliberations.

4. The Commission has already adopted the following resolutions:

a) Resolution 5 (I) according the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development consultative status with the Commission on a continuing basis.

b) Resolution 12 (II) according the Palestine Liberation Organization permanent observer status.

5. During the third session (1976) the session agreed to accord the Industrial development Centre for the Arab States permanent consultative status with the Commission in accordance with rule 66 of the Commission's provisional rules of procedure.