

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling Commission resolution 57 (V), which, in paragraph 1, recommended the establishment of the necessary project at the regional level to assist member countries to increase their capabilities in the field of external trade planning and policies to meet their economic and social development requirements,

Considering the urgent need of member countries for such assistance, especially in the light of the experience gained through the multilateral trade negotiations and the forthcoming deliberations at the fifth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Aware of the positive results of consultations which have taken place between representatives of the Economic Commission for Western Asia, on the one hand, and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT, on the other hand, for the purpose of implementing resolution 57 (V),

1. Recommends the establishment, on an urgent basis, of a regional project to help member countries to increase their capabilities in the field of external trade policy and planning services;
2. Urges Governments of member States to give all possible and necessary support to this project;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary of the commission to follow up the consultations referred to above, with a view to ensuring the early implementation of this project,
4. Urges the United Nations Development Programme to provide the financial support needed to enable the Executive Secretary to take the action referred to in paragraph 1 above.

5th meeting
1 May 1979