

and Social Office in Beirut and the report on the meetings of the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions,²⁰

Reaffirming the importance of the role of the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut in the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2801 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971.

Recalling its resolution 1756 (LIV) of 16 May 1973, in which the Secretary-General was requested to submit to the Council at its fifty-eighth session a further report on regional structures of the United Nations system,

Stressing the importance of regional, sub-regional and interregional co-operation for the attainment of the objectives of the International Development Strategy,

Noting in this respect the review of regional and inter-regional projects undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme and the consultations which have taken place between the Programme and the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut for the purpose of strengthening their relationship and co-operation,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2974 (XXVII) of 14 December 1972 concerning co-operation between developing countries and the decision of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to implement that resolution in order to improve the capacity and experience of all the Member States and to direct the multiplier effect of assistance extended to developing countries,

1. *Takes note with interest* of the report on the meetings of the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions and requests the Secretary-General to continue to submit these reports to the Council at its summer sessions, incorporating therein an analytical study, based on the contents of the annual reports of the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut, identifying common development problems the various regions are faced with and identifying also those experiences of the developed countries and the developing countries themselves which can be helpful to the developing countries in the solution of these common problems;

2. *Commends* the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut for their important contributions to the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy, as contained in the Quito Appraisal, as adopted by the Economic Commission for Latin America in the annex to its resolution 320 (XV),²¹ the first biennial review of social and economic development in the region of the

Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East²² and in the first biennial review and appraisal of progress undertaken by the Economic Commission for Africa²³ and invites them to continue and intensify their activities in this respect, so as to ensure that their contributions are available well in time for the mid-term review and appraisal scheduled for 1975, with particular emphasis on the need to promote both functional and sectoral regional, interregional and sub-regional co-operation;

3. *Draws the attention* of the regional economic commissions to the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Regional co-operation: study on regional structures"²⁴ and to its resolution 1756 (LIV) and requests them to give due consideration to this matter and to co-operate fully with the Secretary-General in the implementation of that resolution;

4. *Invites* the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as the other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to co-operate equally fully with the Secretary-General in the implementation of resolution 1756 (LIV);

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to give his full support to the regional economic commissions, in particular with regard to their contribution to the mid-term review and appraisal;

6. *Requests* the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut to give due consideration to the principles and guide-lines for co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme for inter-country programming and projects²⁵ and to report, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, from time to time on the steps taken for their implementation;

7. *Requests* the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut to consider, if they have not already done so, long-term priority areas of their activities in the light of the changing economic and social situations of the regions and in the world at large.

1878th plenary meeting
9 August 1973

1818 (LV). Establishment of an economic commission for Western Asia

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the special role of the regional economic commissions in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

Bearing in mind that the countries of Western Asia at present covered by the United Nations Economic and

²⁰ E/5370 and Corr.1.

²¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 8* (E/5275 and Corr.1 and E/5275/Add.1), part III.

²² E/CN.11/L.349.

²³ E/CN.14/565.

²⁴ E/5127.

²⁵ See Council resolution 1530 (XLIX), annex.

Social Office in Beirut do not enjoy membership in any regional economic commission,

Believing that such membership would be an important factor in accelerating their economic and social development,

Establishes an Economic Commission for Western Asia, to start its operations on 1 January 1974, with terms of reference as follows:

1. The Economic Commission for Western Asia, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision of the Economic and Social Council, shall, provided that the Commission takes no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country:
 - (a) Initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction and development of Western Asia, for raising the level of economic activity in Western Asia and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of the countries of that area both among themselves and with other countries of the world;
 - (b) Make or sponsor such investigations and studies of economic and technological problems and developments within the territories of Western Asia as the Commission deems appropriate;
 - (c) Undertake or sponsor the collection, evaluation and dissemination of such economic, technological and statistical information as the Commission deems appropriate;
 - (d) Perform such advisory services, within the available resources of its secretariat, as the countries of the region may desire, provided that such services do not overlap with those rendered by the specialized agencies or the United Nations Development Programme;
 - (e) Assist the Council, at its request, in discharging its functions within the region in connexion with any economic problems, including problems in the field of technical assistance;
 - (f) In carrying out the above functions, deal, as appropriate, with the social aspects of economic development and the inter-relationship of the economic and social factors.
2. The members of the Commission shall consist of the States Members of the United Nations situated in Western Asia which at present call on the services of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut. Future applications for membership by Member States shall be decided on by the Council upon the recommendation of the Commission.
3. The Commission is empowered to make recommendations on any matters within its competence directly to the Governments of members concerned, Governments admitted in consultative capacity and the specialized agencies concerned. The Commission shall submit for the Council's prior consideration any of its proposals for activities that would have important effects on the economy of the world as a whole.
4. The Commission may invite any State Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that non-member.
5. The Commission may make arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which have been granted consultative status by the Council, in accordance with the principles approved by the Council for this purpose and contained in its resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968.
6. The Commission may, after discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same general field and with the approval of the Council, establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems appropriate for facilitating the carrying out of its responsibilities.

7. The Commission shall invite representatives of specialized agencies and may invite representatives of any intergovernmental organizations to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to those agencies or organizations, following the practice of the Council.

8. The Commission shall take measures to ensure that the necessary liaison is maintained with other organs of the United Nations and with the specialized agencies. The Commission shall establish appropriate liaison and co-operation with other regional economic commissions in accordance with the directives contained in the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

9. The Commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its Chairman.

10. The administrative budget of the Commission shall be financed from the funds of the United Nations.

11. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall appoint the staff of the Commission, which shall form part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

12. The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year.

*1878th plenary meeting
9 August 1973*

1819 (LV). United Nations export promotion programmes

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that export promotion programmes constitute an important sector of United Nations activity, particularly in assisting developing countries in the light of the over-all goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Recognizing that these programmes can only be implemented through effective co-ordination among the participating organizations and executing agencies,

Considering that a better utilization of the scarce resources available for assistance in the field of trade promotion can only be adequately achieved by avoiding duplication of work and unnecessary overlapping among those organizations and agencies,

Bearing in mind the fact that the definition of trade promotion as already provided by the objectives, programmes and functional structure of the UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre should constitute the basis for any United Nations action in this sector,

Recognizing that, in conformity with the analysis and conclusive suggestions put forward by the Secretary-General in his report on United Nations export promotion and development efforts,²⁶ the Centre is the focal point for technical assistance and co-operation activities in the export promotion field within the United Nations system of assistance to developing countries,

Noting also the serious efforts undertaken by the regional economic commissions to promote the export trade of developing countries in their respective regions,

²⁶ E/5254 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.