

of stimulating co-ordinated economic development in their respective regions and should co-operate in the efforts of the countries to that end as well as in the work of resolving other problems connected with world economic stability,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Economic Commissions for Latin America and for Asia and the Far East have been especially active in promoting the acceleration of economic development of the countries in their respective regions, in accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council, and believes that this activity should be further intensified;

2. *Commends in particular:*

(a) The collaboration established between the Economic Commissions for Europe, for Latin America and for Asia and the Far East in promoting more trade between the countries of their respective regions, and declares that this collaboration should be furthered not only among these countries but also with countries of other regions, bearing in mind the objectives mentioned in General Assembly resolution 523 (VI) of 12 January 1952 and in particular its paragraph 1 (b),<sup>9</sup> relevant policy decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the terms of reference of the Commissions;

(b) The way in which the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, through its integrated studies, meetings of experts, specialized conferences and training centres on various aspects of economic development, is promoting trade and exerting efforts to develop the natural resources and industries of the countries of the region;

(c) The activities of the Economic Commission for Latin America in the matter of the economic development of the countries of the region, and especially:

(i) Its initiative in inviting the governments of the Central-American Republics to carry out a joint programme of great potential significance with a view to the economic integration of these countries, and believes it would be useful to explore the possibility of similar initiatives;

(ii) The integrated studies it has initiated of the economic potentialities and development of various Latin-American countries;

(iii) The meetings of experts on basic industries;

(d) The improvements brought about by the Commissions in the inland transport of their respective regions.

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<sup>9</sup> "Consider the possibility of facilitating through commercial agreements:

"(i) The movement of machinery, equipment and industrial raw materials needed by the under-developed countries for their economic development and for the improvement of their standards of living, and

"(ii) The development of natural resources which can be utilized for the domestic needs of the under-developed countries and also for the needs of international trade,

provided that such commercial agreements shall not contain economic or political conditions violating the sovereign rights of the under-developed countries, including the right to determine their own plans for economic development;"

## 628 (VII). Increase in food production

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the resolutions<sup>10</sup> of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council relating to the need for promoting the increased production of food in the world,

*Noting* the statements<sup>11</sup> of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to the effect that the production of foodstuffs is not increasing at the same rate as the population, and noting that food supplies *per capita* are still less than before the Second World War when more than half the population of the globe was already suffering from malnutrition,

*Recognizing:*

(a) That the problem of the shortage of foodstuffs is of extreme importance and the greatest urgency to all mankind since it affects its very existence—and particularly to the peoples of the countries most immediately threatened by food shortage,

(b) That it is necessary to devise effective measures for increasing the aggregate production of foodstuffs with a view to fostering the economic development of under-developed countries and the relief of hardships caused by food shortages, particularly in the countries most immediately threatened,

*Considering:*

(a) That such measures call for co-ordinated, joint and effective international action by the Food and Agriculture Organization and all other international bodies which may be in a position to assist in increasing agricultural production, particularly of foodstuffs,

(b) That it is incumbent upon these organizations, and particularly the United Nations, to give special attention to co-ordinated international action in this field,

1. *Calls the attention* of the Economic and Social Council, of the specialized agencies concerned, and of the Technical Assistance Board to the increased need for co-ordinated and joint action with regard to the problem of increasing food production, particularly in the countries most immediately threatened by food shortage;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to include in its annual reports to the General Assembly a special section with regard to action taken by the United Nations and the specialized agencies on the problem of the continuing lack of an adequate production of foodstuffs.

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<sup>10</sup> See, *inter alia*, General Assembly resolutions 202 (III) and 525 (VI), and Economic and Social Council resolutions 405 (XIII), 416 E (XIV), 424 (XIV), 425 (XIV) and 451 A (XIV).

<sup>11</sup> See document E/2195, p. 4.