developed and developing countries will obtain a just and equitable share in world trade;

Calls upon the States Members of the United Nations to endeavour to indicate without delay their responses to General Assembly resolution 1707 (XVI);

Requests the Executive Secretary to invite the attention of the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-fourth session and the General Assembly at its seventeenth session to this resolution.

261st meeting, 12 March 1962.

38 (XVIII). Investment promotion

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Having considered the recommendations of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources on measures for promoting industrial investment in countries of the region and for ensuring that investment information is made available to the countries in the region on a continuing basis,

Noting that many countries in the region have recently liberalized their investment laws and regulations and provided various incentives for promoting both domestic and foreign investment,

Noting further that in many areas of industrial development activity, some countries of the region have accumulated considerable experience, which can be advantageously shared by other countries in the region,

Considering that the pace of industrial development would be accelerated through extensive dissemination of information among countries on the various legislative, economic and administrative measures which affect not only foreign investment, but also the mobilization of domestic financial resources, particularly tax measures and tariff and import and export policies designed to encourage industrial investment and output,

Considering further that there is great scope for intraregional consultations for promoting joint ventures and other arrangements for new industrial investments among countries of the region,

1. Endorses the recommendation of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources that the secretariat undertake an intensive and continuing study of the various legislative, administrative and economic measures for promoting industrial investment, in both the private and public sectors in the countries of the region; and prepare a Regional Investment Manual to facilitate dissemination of investment information among the countries of the region;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to give his fullest assistance to the countries of the region in promotion of joint industrial investment.

262nd meeting, 13 March 1962.

39 (XVIII). Asian highways

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling the resolution 33 (XVII) adopted by the Commission at its seventeenth session in which the Commission urged governments to expedite the completion of the priority routes of the Asian highway network,

Taking note of the progress made so far in the implementation of this project,

Considering that several countries participating in developing the Asian highway links need mechanical equipment, pre-investment surveys and financial and technical assistance,

Requests the United Nations Special Fund and other appropriate United Nations agencies and the co-operating countries to extend assistance for carrying out pre-investment surveys as necessary and for the planning and execution of projects that would help to complete, expeditiously, the Asian highway network and in particular the missing links;

Requests the Executive Secretary to render all possible assistance to governments, upon request, in this regard and also for formulating applications for assistance;

Invites member governments concerned to cooperate to the maximum possible extent and to assist one another in the planning and co-ordination of national highway projects having a direct bearing on the Asian highway network.

264th meeting, 14 March 1962.

40 (XVIII). Development of copra trade of the ECAFE countries

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Considering that the production and marketing of coconut and coconut products are of vital importance to the economies of several countries of the region,

Recalling the Commission's earlier study of copra marketing problems through the Committee on Trade,

---

32 See para. 320.

33 See para. 339 above.

34 See para. 310 above.

35 ECAFE/1 & T/Sub.4/4, entitled "Development of coconut industry and its problems in countries in the ECAFE region".
Recognizing the importance of the increasing demands of the highly industrialized countries who are the largest consumers of coconut products, Bearing in mind in particular the need:

(a) To ensure stable and reasonable prices for copra;
(b) To provide for stable and expanding markets for coconut products;
(c) To enhance the efficiency of coconut and copra production;
(d) To control coconut pests and diseases;
(e) To evolve and enforce better standards and grading of copra and other coconut products entering world trade channels; and
(f) To maximize the utilization of coconut and its by-products,

Takes note of the activities of the FAO Group on Coconut and Coconut Products and the FAO Technical Working Party on Coconut Production, Protection and Processing, as well as the technical assistance presently available on coconut problems from the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Far East;

Urges interested member governments of the Commission to participate more actively in the above-mentioned international bodies and to take full advantage of the technical assistance offered by FAO;

Requests the Executive Secretary, in consultation and co-operation with the Director-General of FAO, to assist, as far as possible, in promoting the attainment of the objectives listed above.

264th meeting, 14 March 1962.

41 (XVIII). Decentralization and the strengthening of regional economic commissions

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Noting with satisfaction General Assembly resolutions 1618 (XV) and 1709 (XVI) and resolution 793 (XXX) and 823 (XXXII) of the Economic and Social Council as well as the reports by the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly,

Considering

(a) That the countries in the ECAFE region are increasingly benefiting from the services of the Commission in the economic and social fields and

from the recently decentralized procedures for the United Nations technical assistance activities,

(b) That the limited resources available for technical assistance projects in which member governments are interested must be turned to the fullest possible account and that consequently the knowledge and experience accumulated by the Commission's secretariat should be drawn upon as fully as possible in the planning, implementation and evaluation of technical assistance projects in order to ensure the maximum utilization of available resources,

1. Expresses its gratitude for the measures which the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have adopted to decentralize United Nations economic and social activities and to strengthen the regional economic commissions;

2. Expresses its appreciation of the views of the Secretary-General on the intensified participation of the regional economic commissions in United Nations economic and social activities and on the need to increase their staff resources;

3. Draws the attention of the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly and of the Secretary-General to the immediate and long-term needs of personnel and related facilities in the secretariat to enable it to discharge efficiently its increasing functions and responsibilities;

4. Recommends to the Secretary-General that he take necessary measures to give the Commission's secretariat the requisite authority and sufficient budget to enable it to fulfill its functions efficiently with regard to the progressive decentralization of economic and social activities, due regard being given to the need for prompt rendering of services required by member governments in connexion with the planning, implementation and evaluation of technical assistance projects.

268th meeting, 16 March 1962.

42 (XVIII). Activities in the social field

The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Noting the growing importance and awareness of social aspects of economic development and the mutual interdependence of economic and social development in countries of the region,

Recalling resolution 723 (XXVIII) of the Economic and Social Council amending the terms of reference of the Commission to include social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship of economic and social factors,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 1674 (XVI), which recommended the regional economic commissions to "continue to pay special attention to problems of balanced economic and social development in the region, and to promote the social well-being of the peoples of the region,"

Considering

(a) That the countries in the ECAFE region are increasingly benefiting from the services of the Commission in the economic and social fields and

from the recently decentralized procedures for the United Nations technical assistance activities,

(b) That the limited resources available for technical assistance projects in which member governments are interested must be turned to the fullest possible account and that consequently the knowledge and experience accumulated by the Commission's secretariat should be drawn upon as fully as possible in the planning, implementation and evaluation of technical assistance projects in order to ensure the maximum utilization of available resources,