(b) to assist increasingly in the promotion of country technical assistance projects relating to resources surveys and studies and allied operational aids,

(c) to follow up the progress of the work in regional co-operation activities, to strengthen the secretariat's regional activities, projects and centres in specified fields, and in particular to continue the orientation of the secretariat's regular activities and the work programme, including the use of regional advisers and preparation of a system of country studies, so as to meet more fully the needs of technical assistance and Special Fund programming and operations, and

(d) to convene in co-operation with the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations and the secretariat of the Technical Assistance Board a seminar or working group on national co-ordination of technical assistance and related activities with a view to promoting effective interchanges of experience and ideas that would lead to the establishment of well-defined co-ordination machinery and procedures in countries of the ECAFE region.

330th meeting, 29 March 1963.

58 (XXI). Industrial development and promotion

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling the emphasis laid by the Ministerial Conference on Asian Economic Co-operation held at Manila in 1963 upon co-ordinated efforts in the planning and execution of agreed industrial and related projects, including joint ventures, on a regional and sub-regional basis;

Noting the establishment within the secretariat of the Regional Industries Promotion and Planning Centre to study these matters in a continuous and systematic manner;

27/ See para. 405 above.
Further noting that a series of expert group meetings have been convened by the Executive Secretary to consider matters such as the establishment of the Asian Development Bank and the possibilities of joint ventures in the fields of iron and steel and natural gas industries; and that the first series of the Industrial Promotion Talks were held simultaneously with the seventeenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources in February 1965;

Bearing in mind:

(a) the recommendation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development urging the regional economic commissions to increase assistance to developing countries in promoting planned co-ordinated development of industries based on complementarities of economies and international division of labour,

(b) resolution 1030 (XXXVII) of the Economic and Social Council designed to provide additional assistance to the developing countries in the establishment and implementation of development plans and projects in the industrial field,

(c) the recommendation of the Conference of Asian Economic Planners (second session) for regional harmonization of national development plans in the industrial field;

Endorsing the views expressed at the seventeenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources that the immediate tasks of the Regional Industries Promotion and Planning Centre should be:

(a) to collect and circulate information regarding national industrial development plans and study and analysis of such plans,

(b) to carry out studies of sectors of industries in order to identify those which appear to hold the greatest promise for fruitful co-operation and

(c) to provide assistance to countries of the region at their request;
Believing that, with adequate staff resources, the Centre could play a useful role in accelerating industrial development in countries of the region, particularly in drawing their attention to those courses of action which would lead to beneficial results for a great number of countries;

Invites Governments of member countries of the region:

(a) to extend necessary co-operation to the Centre by providing information on their development plans and other relevant data and also by appointing appropriate liaison officers to the Centre,

(b) to make full use of the services of the Centre and to suggest studies that may be undertaken by the Centre;

Recommends that the support of the United Nations Programmes of Technical Assistance, both Expanded and Regular, as well as the United Nations Special Fund be given to the Centre in its various activities;

Requests the Executive Secretary to explore the possibilities of strengthening the staff resources of the Centre.

325th meeting, 24 March 1965.

59 (XXI). The development of Asia's mineral wealth

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Being aware of the importance of the development of mineral resources to countries of the region in the diversification of their economy, in furnishing essential raw materials for industrial development, in serving as a catalyst as well as a basis for other economic developments and in providing much needed foreign exchange through exports of mineral commodities;

Recalling that in Economic and Social Council resolution 916 (XXXIV) on the United Nations Development Decade, the Governments of Member States as well as the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were called upon to give particular attention to the "exploration and exploitation of natural resources with a view to establishing a raw material and energy basis for economic development;

28/ See para. 412 above.