RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION

103 (XXVII). UNITED NATIONS TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

ECAF/E DECLARATION

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Noting with deep concern that the people of the developing ECAFE region, who constitute a very large segment of the world's population and whose countries together form the greater part of the developing world, receive only a minute percentage of the world's total income and, in many cases, still live at sub-marginal levels,

Aware that satisfaction of the eager aspirations of these peoples to attain adequate standards of living is of utmost urgency and consequence to the peace and welfare both of the region itself and of the entire world,

Reaffirming that acceleration of the pace of economic and social development is an essential prerequisite to the realization of the aims to establish peace and prosperity set forth in the United Nations Charter,

Realizing that positive practical measures and policies for regional co-operation could promote development and progress of the countries of the region,

Recalling ECAFE's previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 77 (XXIII), 78 (XXIII) and 94 (XXV) and the resolution on a strategy for the development of regional economic co-operation adopted at the third Ministerial Conference, which give expression to their "common will" to "take concerted action so as to achieve their common objectives,

Recognizing the significant role and responsibility of ECAFE in promoting development at the national and regional levels,

Noting with satisfaction the successful establishment by ECAFE of various institutions such as the Asian Development Bank, AIDC, the Committee of Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, the Committee for Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas, the Typhoon Committee, the Asian Coconut Community, the Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning, the Asian Statistical Institute, the Co-ordinating Committee for the Asian Highway, the inter-agency joint units for establishing a regional telecommunication network and various centres such as those for commercial arbitration, shipping advisory services, trade promotion and projections and programming,

Welcoming ECAFE's work in elaborating programmes in the fields of trade development, trade liberalization and monetary co-operation, and in improving the economic infrastructure of the region,

Recognizing the prime responsibility of the ECAFE developing countries for intensified mutual co-operation and the impressive increase in their capability to organize their own development, both individually and collectively,

Convinced of the need for further support and reinforcement of the ECAFE countries' co-operation,

Believing that a fuller assumption by the developed countries of the responsibilities incumbent upon them in regard to the development efforts will be increasingly required,

On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations and on the eve of the United Nations Second Development Decade,

1. Earnestly requests the General Assembly to adopt at its twenty-fifth session a comprehensive international strategy for global development during the 1970s, setting out specific goals for the attainment of development objectives and specifying concerted measures for their achievement;

2. Draws attention of the General Assembly to the importance of regional strategy and regional action in implementing the global strategy for the Second Development Decade;

3. Calls for the intensification of initiatives, the elaboration of regional strategy, and the adoption of practical programmes by ECAFE to further regional, multinational and sub-regional co-operation;

4. Invites the member countries of ECAFE and of the United Nations to use ECAFE, in co-operation with the United Nations agencies and related institutions, as an instrument for charting a regional development strategy and for providing assistance in implementation;

5. Urges the United Nations, to this end, to intensify measures of decentralization to the regional economic commissions of its economic and social activities in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

6. Calls on the developing member countries of the ECAFE region to formulate their plans in the context of a long-term perspective, to utilize their potential for regional co-operation as a means to national growth and to redouble their implementation efforts in these respects;

7. Calls also on the developed countries to maximize their contributions in terms of investment resources, technical assistance, transfer of technology and trading opportunities in order to assure long-term sustained economic growth to the developing countries;
8. Commends in this connexion the proposal arising out of General Assembly resolution 2563 (XXIV) by which development advisory services will be provided through ECAFE to assist countries of the region in their overall economic and social development efforts during the Second Development Decade;

9. Requests the Executive Secretary, within the global framework of the strategy for the Second Development Decade and in the spirit of ECAFE resolution 94 (XXV), to formulate other appropriate procedures and patterns of work that will enable ECAFE to fulfil its role in the elaboration, implementation and evaluation of regional strategy and regional action;

10. Urges the higher bodies of the United Nations to provide ECAFE with the means and the resources necessary to fulfil its role for the benefit of the countries of the region.

425th meeting, 23 April 1970.

104 (XXVII). ECAFE HEADQUARTERS SITE AND BUILDING EXTENSION PROGRAMME

I

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Having considered General Assembly resolution 2616 (XXIV) on United Nations accommodation at Bangkok and Addis Ababa, the related reports of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1264) and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/7306), and the Executive Secretary's note on ECAFE's Building Extension Programme (E/CN.11/L.270),

Recalling that, under ECAFE's terms of reference (E/CN.11/306), Bangkok was designated in 1951 as the working site of ECAFE,

Aware that long-range planning is required to improve the accommodation for the ECAFE secretariat,

1. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council that Bangkok be declared the headquarter of ECAFE;

2. Recommends further that the terms of reference of the Commission be amended accordingly and such consequential amendments made as may be needed for the purpose.

II

Appreciating the generous co-operation of the Government of Thailand in providing ECAFE with increasing accommodation and other facilities through the years for its expanding activities for the benefit of the entire ECAFE region,

Aware, nevertheless, that the accommodation problems of the Commission have reached a critical stage and that prompt action is required to provide the Commission with the additional facilities it needs to enable it to function effectively,

Considering that the existing working site, including conference and other facilities provided by the Government of Thailand, will continue to be available to ECAFE,

Recalling the hope of the General Assembly that the host Government would find it possible to assist in the preparation of a proposed architectural and engineering survey, thereby reducing the cost to the United Nations,

Noting with deep appreciation the offer of the Government of Thailand to make available additional plots of land for the construction of a new building in addition to the existing working site,

1. Requests the Economic and Social Council to recommend to the General Assembly that the United Nations accept the offer of the Government of Thailand subject to the conclusion of terms and conditions for the use of the land mutually acceptable to the United Nations and the Government;

2. Requests the Government of Thailand to continue to give further assistance and co-operation to the Executive Secretary of ECAFE and to furnish the data and information required to enable the Secretary-General of the United Nations to report on the possible construction of an additional building for ECAFE to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session.

425th meeting, 23 April 1970.

105 (XXVII). REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON RICE

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Considering the important role that rice plays in the economies of the countries of Asia,

Noting the severe disorganization that the year-to-year fluctuations in its prices and production cause to the development effort and to the economy in general,

Realizing the need for concerted action to stabilize prices at levels which would take into account the interests of the exporting as well as importing countries,

Being aware of the complexities of the issues involved in any regional arrangements for rice,

Recognizing that such action on rice should form part of the arrangements for intra-regional trade liberalization,