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 fulfill 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

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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/7806), 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 headquarters 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.

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 yearly 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,
Requests the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to undertake studies for and initiate as early as possible regular inter-governmental consultations on rice among the countries of the region within the framework of the trade liberalization and development programme.

427th meeting, 24 April 1970.

106 (XXVI), PERFORMANCE EVALUATION DURING THE SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling its resolution 94 (XXV) on the Second Development Decade,

Considering the preliminary report by the Executive Secretary entitled "Machinery and Scheme for Periodic Performance Evaluation during the Second Development Decade",11 which provides the background to progress evaluation,

Aware that appropriate arrangements are needed for conducting regular appraisals, on a regional basis, of progress made towards achieving the goals of the Second Development Decade, and that ECAFE has a vital role to play in carrying out such appraisals,

Noting the contributions already made by ECAFE towards setting the targets and formulating the strategy for the Second Development Decade,

Recognizing the need for ECAFE to play a positive role in the implementation of the strategy for the Decade,

1. Affirms the need for regular consultations and exchanges of views among countries of the region, which can

(a) lay a basis for mutual understanding and confidence, the sharing of experience and the identification and mutual solution of problems hampering economic development, and

(b) help in the identification of measures for co-operation among member countries;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to take action for conducting regular appraisals and evaluations of progress during the Second Development Decade along the guidelines and within the framework of the global strategy for the Second Development Decade and to report to the Commission at its twenty-seventh session on the steps taken in that direction.

427th meeting, 24 April 1970.


107 (XXVI), TRANSIT PROBLEMS OF LAND-LOCKED COUNTRIES

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling its resolution 51 (XX) on transit trade of land-locked countries,

Further recalling the principles relating to transit trade of land-locked countries adopted by the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the provisions of the 1965 Convention on Transit Trade of Land-locked States which is now in force,

Inviting the attention of member States to UNCTAD resolution 11 (II) on special problems of land-locked countries which states, inter alia, that "The land-locked position of many developing countries affects the expansion of trade and economic development of these countries, and may hamper them in taking advantage of some of the international measures envisaged to support the trade expansion and economic development of all developing countries. The special problems involved in the promotion of the trade and economic development of the land-locked developing countries, in particular the high cost of transportation due to distances from sea, the poor state of transport and communications and other factors inhibiting the execution of their trade expansion and economic development programmes, call for special attention and require special solutions."

Noting the continued effort of the ECAFE secretariat to find suitable solutions to the transit problems of land-locked countries and to facilitate international traffic in the ECAFE region,

Inviting attention to paragraph B.5 of the above-mentioned UNCTAD resolution which "recommends that the land-locked developing countries and the transit countries should enter into consultations and negotiations, whether bilaterally or on a regional or sub-regional basis, with a view to examining jointly the special difficulties which the land-locked developing countries face in the promotion of their trade and economic development, and to concluding agreements designed to overcome such difficulties in accordance with the nature of each particular case, paying special attention to the facilities requested by the land-locked countries for their transit trade", and paragraph B.9 which "invites the regional economic commissions concerned with the developing regions and the regional and sub-regional economic groupings of the developing countries to pay special attention in their work programmes to the special problems in the field of trade expansion and economic development of the land-locked countries members of such regional economic commissions and regional or sub-regional economic groupings, and to give special consideration to the need for greater participation by such land-locked developing countries in regional and international trade."

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