2. Requests the Executive Secretary to take action to assist in the development and expansion of national, sub-regional or regional merchant marine, including pooling of shipping services and to promote related services and facilities.

427th meeting, 24 April 1970.

110 (XXVI). TRAINING IN AND USE OF COMPUTERS WITHIN THE REGION

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling Commission resolution 98 (XXV),

Recalling the recommendation of the Conference of Asian Statisticians at its ninth session that the Executive Secretary appoint a committee of experts to study further the demand for, general viability, cost and detailed specification of the proposed regional computing centre,

Having received the report submitted by the said Committee of Experts which advocated the early establishment of a regional institute for applied data processing in order to meet training needs within the region,

Recognizing

(i) that not all the developing countries of the region are adequately equipped to participate effectively in international economic development, being hampered in countering their own internal problems by the lack of reliable and timely information from such sources as population, agricultural and industrial censuses, economic and social statistics, government accounting, etc.;

(ii) that the gathering of uniform, reliable and timely statistics on all fields of economic and social endeavour may eventually require all countries to develop their own use of computers;

(iii) that there is an acute shortage of trained personnel in the field of systems analysis and design and computer programming in the developing countries,

Noting

(f) that several countries which have data processing installations have expanded their facilities for training personnel in computer technology to meet rapidly rising needs;

(ii) that advanced training in most countries - and training at all levels in countries with limited computer capability - still has to be arranged for abroad and that some countries have difficulties in arranging such training,

Recognizing

(f) that facilities for data processing are not necessarily best combined with those needed for training and would in any case need to be under separate financial control;

(ii) that it is in the interests of all countries that all facilities for training within the region be effectively exploited,

1. Notes that the present data processing needs of the secretariat are being met;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to bring to the notice of the Commission in good time expected increases in demand for data processing by the secretariat;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to use his good offices to help ensure that those developing countries of the region which have difficulty in obtaining training in the use of computers by Governments are enabled to make the best arrangements to suit their needs, so that the training facilities and spare computer capacity within and outside the region now or in the future may be fully utilized;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to take steps to initiate training arrangements in the use of computers in the region in the light of the report of the Committee of Experts, the comments thereon contained in document E/CN.11/1/L.269 and Add.1 and the comments made at the twenty-sixth session of the Commission and thereafter to submit those arrangements to Governments of member countries with a view to necessary action being taken by the Commission at its twenty-seventh session.

427th meeting, 24 April 1970.

111 (XXVI). POPULATION IN RELATION TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Noting General Assembly resolution 2211(XXI) which recognizes the sovereignty of nations in formulating and promoting their own population policies and the principle that the size of the family should be the free choice of each individual family,

Recalling its resolution 54 (XX) inviting Governments to take account of the urgency of adopting positive population policies related to their individual needs, and its resolution 74 (XXIII) calling for appropriate steps to expand the regional population programme in the light of existing priority areas and emerging needs of Governments,

Noting with satisfaction the initiation by the secretariat of an intensified programme of work that brings regional experience and co-operation to bear on national population problems through projects that include a wide range of action-oriented studies and research, provision of training and advisory services and the establishment of a regional clearing house,

Recognizing that the growing efforts to improve the quality of life through long-term economic and