Welcoming the strong support given to the accelerated development of Lumbini by the Transport and Communications Committee at its twenty-second session and also the support and assistance provided by the United Nations and particularly by the United Nations Development Programme and by various friendly nations to this project,

Aware of the continuing inadequacy of funds for completing the remaining phase of the master plan of Lumbini Garden, without which actual construction cannot begin, and the consequent need for further assistance,

Deeply appreciating the keen interest taken in the project by the Executive Secretary and his appeal to member countries to contribute generously to the development of Lumbini,

Warmly welcoming offers of assistance, including those made at the current session by several Governments,

1. Decides to continue to extend all necessary support and assistance in order to enable the Royal Government of Nepal to implement the project speedily;

2. Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to provide continued assistance to the project to the maximum extent possible;

3. Earnestly requests the Governments of member countries to contribute to the utmost of their ability the resources in cash and kind required for the development of the Lumbini project;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to render all possible assistance to the Royal Government of Nepal in regard to this project and to report to the Commission at its thirty-first session on the progress made.

489th meeting, 4 April 1974.

J48(XXX). Over-all review of the Commission's regional training institutions supported by the United Nations Development Programme

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recognizing the manifold advantages to be derived from close co-ordination of the operations and activities of its regional training institutions, namely the Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning, the Asian Statistical Institute, the Asian Centre for Development Administration and the Asian Centre for Training and Research in Social Welfare and Development to be set up,

Recognizing further the need for harmonization and complementarity of the work programmes of the regional institutions in order to ensure an integrated approach to the areas with which they deal,

Noting the intention of the United Nations Development Programme to phase out gradually its support to the regional institutions, as a consequence of which the countries of the region and interested organizations and agencies may have to assume greater responsibility for the functioning of those institutions,

Realizing that this may entail a need for certain substantive changes in the institutions, to which careful consideration should be given,

1. Endorses the proposal contained in the report of the Meeting of Directors of Regional Institutions with the Executive Secretary (E/CN.11/1144) that the Executive Secretary initiate action for operational co-ordination of the institutions;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, to field a mission in 1974 to study the matter;

3. Urges the United Nations Development Programme to consider favourably a request for financing the mission;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-first session on the mission's findings and recommendations.

489th meeting, 4 April 1974.

J49(XXX). An Asian Centre for Training and Research in Social Welfare and Development

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling the recommendation of the International Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare (New York, 1968) that regional centres for advanced training and research in social welfare be set up for the purpose of providing training for senior and high-level social welfare personnel,

Further recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1406 (XLVI) endorsing that recommendation and inviting the Secretary-General and the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions to consult the Governments of Member States regarding the establishment of regional social welfare research and training centres,

Aware of the supportive role of the First Asian Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare Welfare (Manila, 1970), which, recognizing the need for a centre for social welfare training and research in the region and the technical soundness of the proposal in that regard as submitted by the Government of the Philippines, recommended that the Government of the Philippines request assistance from the United Nations Development Programme, and that the latter ascertain from Governments of member countries in the region their views and willingness to accept the proposal,
Recalling that it had welcomed the announcement by the delegation of the Philippines at its twenty-ninth session that the Philippine Government had already taken steps to provide facilities for the centre,

Aware that a large number of member countries supported in principle the project proposal circulated by the United Nations Development Programme, that financial and personnel counterpart assistance had been pledged by some of them, and that sizable financial assistance and other expertise, consultancy and fellowship resources had been offered by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children’s Fund and the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Noting that the United Nations Development Programme has indicated its desire to see the Centre become operative as a legal entity with an appropriate character and a legal personality as soon as additional pledges for financial and other contributions are forthcoming from the larger and more affluent members of the Commission,

Further noting the blueprint for the substance of the Centre’s work programme and its activities as recommended by the Preparatory Workshop of Experts, Manila, 18-25 February 1974 (E/CN.11/L.392/Add.1),

1. Requests the Executive Secretary, in keeping with Commission resolution 148 (XXX) concerning regional institutions generally, to (a) consult the Governments of member countries and to solicit from them pledges of financial and other support for the Centre, initially for the first two years, and (b) to take appropriate measures in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme and other interested parties to finalize the operational document and expedite the launching of the project;

2. Urges the United Nations Development Programme and other collaborating United Nations agencies and organizations to support in every possible manner the efforts of the Executive Secretary to ensure the early establishment of the Centre

489th meeting, 4 April 1974.

150 (XXX). Extension of the Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning into 1974 and 1975, to be followed by a third phase to commence in 1976 and end in 1980, in accordance with the recommendations of its Governing Council

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling its resolution 123 (XXVIII), which urges the United Nations Development Programme and the Governments of its member and associate member countries to support the Asian Institute financially for a third five-year period (1974-1978) and to provide such support in substantially increased measure, as recommended by the Governing Council, and which provides that the Institute shall become a permanent organization and continue to function as a regional institution supported by the United Nations,

Apprised of the decision of the United Nations Development Programme that 1974 and 1975 shall be considered a bridging period to enable the Institute to reorganize its activities in the light of requirements of countries of the region, both immediately and for the longer term,

Aware that, in 1975, the United Nations Development Programme will establish a review mission in order to regard the future possibilities of support in respect of a third phase (1976 to 1980),

Welcoming the decision of the Institute to study the training and research priorities of the countries of the region and collaborate with national institutions and other organizations undertaking specific programmes in these priority areas,

Noting its resolution 148 (XXX) requesting the Executive Secretary in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme to field a mission to study means of co-ordinating the activities of the Institute and of the Asian Statistical Institute, the Asian Centre for Development Administration and the proposed Asian Centre for Training and Research in Social Welfare and Development,

Taking cognizance of the report of the Governing Council on the functioning of the Institute and the proposals and recommendations contained therein in regard to the 1974-1975 bridging period and the third phase of the Institute,

1. Endorses the decision that 1974 and 1975 shall be considered a bridging period;

2. Accepts the Governing Council’s recommendation that contributions pledged by the member and associate member countries of the Commission for the period 1974-1978 be revised to reflect, pro rata, the financial assistance by these countries for the bridging period and that the contributions yet to be made by other members of the Commission accord with the same recommendation;

3. Recommends that the United Nations Development Programme and the member and associate member countries of the Commission approve a third phase (1976-1980);

4. Expresses its appreciation of the Royal Government of Thailand’s provision hitherto of host facilities to the Institute and of its interest in being host to the Institute on a permanent basis;

5. Decides that the Governing Council of the Institute shall submit a report to the Commission at its thirty-first session on the steps taken in regard to the third phase.

489th meeting, 4 April 1974.