(b) Setting up in 1976 of a co-ordinating committee at the technical level to assist in the co-ordination and integration of programmes and operations of the regional institutions as well as in the process of establishing a single intergovernmental governing council. The co-ordinating committee, in carrying out its functions, should undertake close and continuing consultations, particularly with host Governments;

(c) Establishment in 1976 of an expert advisory committee for each of the regional institutions to assist them in their respective substantive programme areas;

(d) Exercise of the powers of the existing governing/advisory councils until the single intergovernmental governing council becomes operational in 1977;

2. *Earnestly appeals* to all members and associated members of the Commission, other donor countries, interested agencies, foundations and institutions to consider generously providing additional or new contributions to the regional institutions in order to alleviate their current financial situation, and also appeals to them and to the United Nations Development Programme in particular to make every effort to ensure the financial stability of the regional institutions on a long-term basis;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take all necessary steps to help to improve the current financial situation of the regional institutions;

4. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to take all necessary measures, in consultation with interested Governments, with regard to the final decision on hosting facilities for the Asian Development Institute;

5. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the progress made to the Commission at its thirty-third session.

167 (XXXII). Implementation of the decisions of the World Food Conference

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

*Recognizing* the magnitude of the food problems in Asia and keeping in mind the role assigned by the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session to the World Food Council in implementing the resolutions of the World Food Conference and in co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations agencies,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to collaborate fully with and support the efforts of the World Food Council in this task in order to accelerate agricultural development in the developing countries of the region;

2. *Urges* the countries in a position to do so in accordance with the decisions of the World Food Conference to contribute to the International Fund for Agricultural Development so that it may be established in 1976;

3. *Also urges* countries to do their utmost to meet, at the second session of the World Food Council (May-June 1976), the target of 10 million tons of food aid proposed by the World Food Conference.

509th meeting, 31 March 1976.

168 (XXXII). Legislative arrangements on shipping

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

*Recalling* that one of the important objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade is to promote by national, regional and international action the earnings of developing countries from invisible trade, including shipping, and that the national shipping lines of developing countries should have an increasing and substantial participation in the carriage of cargoes generated by their foreign trade,

*Bearing in mind* that the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, provides *inter alia* that all efforts should be made:

(a) To promote an increasing and equitable participation of developing countries in the world shipping tonnage;

(b) To arrest and reduce the ever-increasing freight rates in order to reduce the cost of imports to, and exports from, the developing countries;

*Noting with concern* that the combined fleets of the developing member countries in 1973 accounted for only 3 per cent of the world fleet (d.w.t.);

*Recognizing* the potential that exists for the successful development of the shipping industry in the developing countries of the Asia and the Pacific region, in particular in the following areas:

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(a) The expansion of national merchant fleets in the region;

(b) The exploration of possibilities of intensifying regional and interregional co-operation for the development of shipping;

(c) The promotion of the increasing and equitable participation of developing member countries in world shipping tonnage and trade; and

(d) The maintenance of fair and reasonable freight rates for the expansion of trade of the developing countries,

Conscious of the substantial contribution that the implementation of the above proposals could make towards accelerating the pace of economic development of the developing countries,

Recognizing the need for the regional economic commission to co-ordinate its activities on shipping with several other United Nations and international bodies, such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Latin America, and the Economic Commission for West Asia,

Commending the good work done by the Staff Service for Shipping and Ports set up by the Executive Secretary,

Recalling its resolution 160 (XXXI) that there shall in principle be one forum for shipping and ports,

1. Decides to restructure the present Transport and Communications Committee as follows:

(a) The restructured Committee shall be re-designated as “Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications”,

(b) The Committee shall have two separate and distinct wings, one wing attending exclusively to matters concerning shipping and ports, and the second wing dealing with all other matters pertaining to transport and communications,

(c) The restructured Committee shall meet annually and its two wings will share equally the time allotted to it for its deliberations;

2. Decides also that an ad hoc intergovernmental group shall be set up immediately to formulate the terms of reference of the restructured Committee. The group shall give its recommendations in good time for consideration by the existing Transport and Communications Committee at its next session and subsequent submission to the Commission at its thirty-third session for approval;

3. Requests the United Nations Development Programme to provide increasing support to the activities of this Committee;

4. Further requests the developed and developing countries to continue to provide assistance to this Committee for the development of shipping and ports;

5. Further decides that, in the mean time, the existing arrangements on shipping and ports shall be continued.

510th meeting, 2 April 1976.

169 (XXXII). Special measures in favour of the least developed, land-locked and island countries

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Reaffirming the Kabul Declaration on Asian Economic and Development Co-operation,

Also reaffirming the New Delhi Declaration on the Regional Contribution to the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Recalling the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrial Development and Co-operation,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) on development and international economic co-operation,

Noting General Assembly resolution 3504 (XXX) on the Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries,

1. Calls upon member countries, to the extent possible:

(a) To adopt favourable treatment for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries to assist in bringing about harmonious and balanced development;

(b) To give special attention to the trade requirements of the least developed, land-locked and island countries;