longer-term development efforts and a Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the least developed countries with the objective, inter alia, of transforming their economies towards self-sustained development,

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions 34/210 of 19 December 1979, by which the Assembly endorsed the Comprehensive New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, and 35/205 of 16 December 1980 on the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980 containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Reaffirming Comission resolution 204 (XXXVI) of 27 March 1980 on special measures in favour of the least developed countries,

Deeply concerned that, since the adoption of the Immediate Action Programme (1979-1981), very limited progress has been made towards its implementation,

Recognizing that primary responsibility for their development rests with the least developed countries themselves,

Reaffirming that there is an immediate need for a greatly expanded increase in the transfer of resources to meet the critical needs of the least developed countries and to help to promote their rapid and self-sustained socio-economic development,

Emphasizing the particular importance of the contribution that economic co-operation among developing countries can make, inter alia, to the development of the least developed countries among them,

1. Calls upon the international community and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take all necessary measures to contribute to the success of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, which will, inter alia, finalize, adopt and support the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s called for in resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. Requests the international community to take all necessary steps and measures and to accord due priority, in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, to the provisions relating to accelerated development of the least developed countries;

3. Urges all developed countries, developing countries in a position to do so, multilateral development institutions and other sources to take urgent steps to implement without any further delay, and

in any case before the end of 1981, the commitments undertaken in the Immediate Action Programme (1979-1981) contained in resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

4. Urges donor countries and multilateral development institutions to allocate increased financial resources and technical assistance in support of activities aimed at major structural transformations in the least developed countries, taking into account the relative overall performance of the donor countries;

5. Also urges donor countries to make equitable and all possible efforts with a view to doubling, at the earliest possible time within the first half of the 1980s, the flow of official development assistance to the least developed countries, in accordance with the commitments undertaken in paragraph 13 of resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and to give serious consideration to this end to the proposal that such a doubling should be in real terms, taking into account the relative performance of donor countries;

6. Urges all developed countries, developing countries in a position to do so, multilateral development institutions and other sources to extend substantial technical and/or financial assistance to the least developed countries for the survey, exploration and development of their energy resources;

7. Urges that special efforts be made to ensure and/or promote adequate markets for the exports of the least developed countries, in accordance with resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, taking into account the interests of other developing countries;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session on the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

9. Further requests the Executive Secretary to focus his annual report to the Commission relating to the least developed countries of the ESCAP region in particular on progress in the implementation of the decisions of the Conference.

570th meeting
19 March 1981

215 (XXXVII). Charter of the Asian and
Pacific Development Centre

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 191 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979, in which, inter alia, it decided that the Asian and

See para. 789 above.
Pacific Development Institute, the Asian and Pacific Development Administration Centre, the Social Welfare and Development Centre for Asia and the Pacific and the Asian and Pacific Centre for Women and Development should be integrated, further decided that the integrated institution should be named the Asian and Pacific Development Centre and resolved that the Centre should be an intergovernmental institution with its own charter,

Recalling also its request in the same resolution that the Executive Secretary proceed to formulate a charter for the Asian and Pacific Development Centre and submit the charter to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session for consideration,

Further recalling its resolution 206 (XXXVI) of 27 March 1980, in which, inter alia, it requested the Executive Secretary to convene an intergovernmental meeting of members and associate members of the Commission for the purpose of reviewing the provisions of the draft Charter and proposing a final draft for the consideration and approval of the Commission at its thirty-seventh session,

Having received and considered the report of the intergovernmental meeting held at Bangkok from 13 to 15 October 1980, which agreed, by consensus, to recommend the revised draft Charter contained in the annex to the report for endorsement by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session, subject to two unresolved issues as follows:

(a) The reservation of one delegation with regard to article VIII, paragraph 2 (a), that in that paragraph the words in brackets, namely, "who shall be the Chairman of the Management Board" should be added,

(b) The reservation of one delegation with regard to article X, paragraph 1 (a), that the words "shall be in accordance with an agreed subscription formula" should be added at the end of that paragraph, and the word "voluntary" should be deleted,

Noting that the two reservations to approval of the draft Charter by the Commission, as identified in the report of the intergovernmental meeting, as well as a further consequential amendment to article III, paragraph 2, that the word "voluntary" should be deleted, remain unresolved,

1. Approves the provisions of the draft Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, with the exception of article III, paragraph 2, article VIII, paragraph 2 (a), and article X, paragraph 1 (a);

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to undertake a series of negotiations and consultations with interested Governments, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations and to convene an intergovernmental meeting of members and associate members of the Commission, if deemed appropriate, with a view to resolving the outstanding issues set forth above for the consideration and approval of the Commission at its thirty-eighth session.

570th meeting
19 March 1981

Annex

DRAFT CHARTER OF THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

The Parties to this Charter, being members and associate members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission" or "ESCAP")..

Recalling Commission resolution 191 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979 on, inter alia, the integration of the following regional training and research institutions: the Asian and Pacific Development Institute, the Asian and Pacific Development Administration Centre, the Social Welfare and Development Centre for Asia and the Pacific and the Asian and Pacific Centre for Women and Development,

Recalling also Commission resolution 206 (XXXVI) of 27 March 1980, by which the Commission established the Asian and Pacific Development Centre on an interim basis by Statute and concurring in the Commission's recommendations that the Centre be permanently established as a separate intergovernmental institution by July 1983 and that the institution should maintain a co-operative and working relationship with ESCAP,

Desiring to establish such a single integrated regional training and research institution, named the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, in the ESCAP region,

Agree as follows:

Article I

Establishment of the Centre

The Asian and Pacific Development Centre (hereinafter referred to as the "Centre") is hereby established as an intergovernmental institution for policy research and training relating to development to serve the Asian and Pacific region.

Article II

Purpose and functions

1. The purpose of the Centre shall be to assist Governments of countries members of the Centre and, on such terms as the Centre may deem appropriate, Governments of countries of the ESCAP region not
members of the Centre, and collaborate with governmental and non-governmental research and training institutions and other institutions of public education in the Asian and Pacific region, in the study, formulation, implementation, management and evaluation of development strategies and policies.

2. For this purpose, the Centre shall have the following functions:

(a) To conduct research on its own in areas where research is deemed necessary and where a regional research effort is most appropriate;

(b) To encourage, among institutions in the region, research on current development issues and problems;

(c) To conduct programmes for exchange of experience in development in the countries of the region through meetings of senior researchers, officials and other persons at the policy-making level related to development;

(d) To facilitate and arrange training at the working level in countries of the region and, for this purpose, utilize networks of national, subregional and regional research and training institutions and also conduct training at the Centre as appropriate;

(e) To serve, through its publications and high-level meetings, as a clearing-house for information on development;

(f) To provide consultancy services, in cooperation with national institutions, where appropriate, to countries of the region.

3. In carrying out these functions, the Centre shall maintain a judicious balance between research and training activities.

4. Special organizational identity shall be given to the programme area related to issues concerning women, youth, children and the handicapped, and sufficient emphasis shall be given to activities in the field of social welfare and development.

**Article III**

**Membership**

1. All countries that are members or associate members of the Commission shall be eligible for membership in the Centre. Any such country shall become a member of the Centre on becoming a party to this Charter.

2. Each such country, on becoming a member of the Centre, recognizes that the financial viability of the Centre is the responsibility of its member countries. Members shall ensure that voluntary contributions to the Centre are made in a timely and adequate manner.

**Article IV**

**Status, structure and headquarters**

1. The Centre shall have juridical personality and shall have the capacity, in accordance with the national laws and regulations of the members of the Centre:

(a) To contract;

(b) To acquire and dispose of immovable and movable property;

(c) To institute legal proceedings.

2. The Centre shall have a General Council, a Management Board and a Director and staff.

3. The headquarters of the Centre shall be at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**Article V**

**General Council: composition**

1. The General Council shall be composed of all the members of the Centre.

2. The Director of the Centre shall serve as Secretary of the General Council.

**Article VI**

**General Council: functions**

The General Council shall:

(a) Establish policies and principles which will govern the activities of the Centre and approve the broad framework of its programmes. The General Council shall approve the budget estimates and accounts of the Centre for each biennium.

(b) Establish the Management Board of the Centre in accordance with the provisions of article VIII;

(c) Establish such other subsidiary bodies as it may deem appropriate;

(d) Appoint the Director of the Centre in accordance with the provisions of article IX, paragraph 1;

(e) Receive and consider the reports of the Management Board and the Director on the functions delegated to them;

(f) Exercise such other functions as it may be authorized to perform or as may be necessary under this Charter.

**Article VII**

**General Council: meetings and procedure**

1. The General Council shall meet in regular session once every two years.
2. The first, and inaugural, regular session of the General Council shall be convened by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP as soon as possible after the entry into force of this Charter.

3. The General Council shall meet in special session whenever a majority of the members of the Centre request the Chairman of the General Council to convene a special session.

4. A quorum for meetings of the General Council shall be a majority of the members of the Centre.

5. Each member of the Centre shall have one vote in the General Council.

6. The General Council shall endeavour to reach its decisions by consensus. Where consensus is not possible, decisions of the General Council shall, unless otherwise provided in this Charter, be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

7. The General Council shall at each regular session elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman. They shall hold office until the next regular session of the General Council. The Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman shall preside at meetings of the General Council.

8. Representatives of Governments not members of the Centre, representatives of ESCAP and other appropriate United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, representatives of such other organizations as the General Council may deem appropriate and experts in fields of interest to the General Council may be invited to participate in meetings of the General Council in the capacity of observers without the right to vote.

9. The General Council shall, subject to the provisions of this Charter, adopt its own rules of procedure.

Article VIII
Management Board

1. The General Council shall at its first, and inaugural, session establish the Management Board of the Centre.

2. The Management Board shall be composed of the following members: (a) a representative of the host country of the Centre [who shall be the Chairman of the Management Board]; (b) up to 14 persons from within the Asian and Pacific region elected by the General Council to serve in their individual capacities; (c) up to three persons from within or outside the region who may be co-opted by the Management Board and who will also serve in their individual capacities; and (d) the Director of the Centre.

3. The General Council shall, in establishing the Management Board, define its terms of reference and delegate to the Board the authority necessary to enable it to serve as an effective management authority, without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Director, as provided in article IX. It shall be the responsibility of the Management Board to ensure the proper implementation of the work programme and ensure that expenditure is incurred in a properly accountable manner.

4. The Board, which shall be responsible to the General Council in the performance of its functions, shall ensure that the activities of the Centre are conducted in accordance with the Charter of the Centre and the resolutions and decisions of the General Council.

5. The Management Board shall meet at least once every year.

Article IX

Director and staff

1. The Director of the Centre shall be appointed by the General Council for a term of three years on the recommendation of the Management Board. The Director shall be eligible for reappointment for an additional term of two years only, provided, however, that the first Director may serve for no longer than a cumulative period of five years, including service as Director of the Centre, prior to the entry into force of this Charter.

2. If the post of the Director falls vacant, the Management Board shall appoint a suitable person as Acting Director during the interim period until such time as a new Director is appointed by the General Council.

3. The Director shall be responsible to the General Council and to the Management Board in the performance of his functions.

4. The Director shall:

   (a) Administer the Centre and its programmes with a view to ensuring that the Centre becomes an institution of high academic standing;

   (b) Prepare and submit to the General Council through the Management Board, for review and approval, the areas identified for research and proposals for their development as well as the areas for training, seminars and workshops, the budget estimates and the accounts of the Centre;

   (c) Report on the Centre and its programmes to the Management Board and the General Council;

   (d) Appoint the other staff of the Centre;

   (e) Arrange all matters relating to the publication of materials produced by the Centre, having in view the objectives of the Centre and its academic character;

   (f) Perform such other duties as may be required of him under this Charter or pursuant to decisions of the General Council or of the Management Board.
Article X

Resources

1. The financial resources of the Centre shall be composed of:

   (a) The voluntary contributions of the members of the Centre [which shall be in accordance with an agreed subscription formula];

   (b) Funds received from Governments not members of the Centre;

   (c) Funds received from international and national institutions;

   (d) Moneys received for services furnished by the Centre;

   (e) Other funds or moneys received by the Centre.

2. The Centre may also receive contributions of a non-financial nature.

3. The General Council shall at each session review the state of the resources of the Centre, as presented by the Management Board, and make such recommendations to the members of the Centre as it may deem appropriate, to ensure that timely and adequate resources are always available to the Centre and its programmes, and that a balance between these resources and programmes is maintained.

4. The Centre shall be administered on a sound economic and financial basis.

5. Regulations for receipt, custody and expenditure of the financial and non-financial resources of the Centre shall be established.

Article XI

Relations with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. The Centre shall establish and maintain a close consultative, co-operative and working relationship with ESCAP.

2. The Centre may enter into an agreement with ESCAP on the modalities of that relationship.

3. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP or his representative shall be invited to attend meetings of the General Council and of the Management Board and may make such statements and present such papers as he may deem appropriate.

4. The General Council or the Management Board, as appropriate, shall each year submit to ESCAP at its annual session a report on the Centre and its programmes.

Article XII

Relations with other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other international institutions

The Centre may establish and maintain such relations as it may deem appropriate with other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other international institutions.

Article XIII

Facilities, privileges and immunities

The Centre shall conclude with Malaysia, as the country in which the headquarters of the Centre shall be located, a headquarters agreement relating to the facilities, privileges and immunities which the Centre, representatives of its members, its officials and its consultants will receive while in Malaysia for the purpose of exercising official duties.

Article XIV

Withdrawal from the Centre

1. Any member of the Centre may withdraw from the Centre and this Charter by giving written notification of withdrawal to the Chairman of the General Council and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as depository of this Charter.

2. The Chairman of the General Council shall inform all other members of the Centre and the Secretary-General of the United Nations as depository of this Charter of his receipt of such a notification.

3. A notification of withdrawal shall take effect six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

4. A member withdrawing from the Centre shall continue to be responsible for obligations incurred within the period of its membership.

Article XV

Dissolution of the Centre

1. The General Council may, by a two-thirds majority of the total membership of the Centre, resolve that the Centre be dissolved.

2. On approval of such a resolution by two thirds of the members of the Centre, in notifications addressed to the Chairman of the General Council, the necessary steps shall be taken by the General Council for the dissolution of the Centre. These steps shall include establishment by the General Council of a committee to advise the General Council on the manner in which the assets and obligations of the Centre should be liquidated prior to the dissolution of the Centre.
3. The General Council shall, at the appropriate stage, adopt a final declaration stating that on a specified date the Centre shall be deemed dissolved. The declaration shall be communicated by the Chairman of the General Council to the members of the Centre and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as depository of this Charter.

Article XVI
Signature, ratification and accession

1. Countries eligible, under article III, to become members of the Centre may become parties to this Charter by:

   (a) Signing the Charter without reservations as to ratification, acceptance or approval;

   (b) Signing the Charter subject to ratification, acceptance or approval, and, thereafter, depositing instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval;

   (c) Accepting the Charter.

2. This Charter shall be open for signature at the headquarters of ESCAP in Bangkok from ................

   to ................ and thereafter at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

3. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-Gen eral of the United Nations.

Article XVII
Associate members of ESCAP

If an associate member of ESCAP is not fully responsible for the conduct of its international relations, it shall, when signing, ratifying, approving, accepting or according to this Charter present a document issued by the Government of the State responsible for the conduct of the international relations of the associate member confirming that the associate member has authority to be a party to, and to assume rights and obligations under, this Charter.

Article XVIII
Entry into force

1. This Charter shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after five countries eligible under article III to become members of the Centre, including Malaysia, the country in which the headquarters of the Centre shall be, have become parties to this Charter in accordance with article XVI, paragraph 1. It is understood, however, that the Charter shall not enter into force prior to 1 July 1983.

2. For countries signing this Charter under article XVI, paragraph 1 (a), or depositing instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession after the date of the five signatures, ratifications, acceptances, approvals or accessions required under paragraph 1 of this article for the entry into force of this Charter, this Charter shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after such signature or deposit, provided, however, that such entry into force shall not occur prior to 1 July 1983.

Article XIX
Amendment

1. Any party to this Charter may propose an amendment to this Charter.

2. The proposed amendment shall be considered by the General Council and if approved by a two-thirds majority in the General Council shall enter into force for all parties to this Charter on the thirtieth day after the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of instruments of acceptance of the proposed amendment by two thirds of the parties to this Charter.

Article XX
Depository

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is hereby designated as the depository of this Charter.

2. The original text of this Charter shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized to do so by their respective Governments, have signed this Charter, opened for signature at the headquarters of ESCAP in Bangkok on ................. 19 ....

For ........................................ (Signature) (Date)

For ........................................ (Name and title)

For ........................................

For ........................................

For ........................................

216 (XXXVII). Role of the co-operative movement in the social and economic development of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2459 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968 on the role of the co-operative movement in economic and social develop-

6 See paras. 311-314 above.