

3. *Expresses* its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the useful information contained in the study entitled *The Quest for Freer Trade*,³

4. *Decides* to resume consideration of the problem of the expansion of world trade at its twenty-second session.

*891st plenary meeting,
4 August 1955.*

B

INTER-REGIONAL TRADE CONSULTATIONS

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 535 B (XVIII) on inter-regional co-operation,

Having considered the *World Economic Report 1953-1954*⁴ and the report of the Secretary-General on inter-regional trade co-operation,⁵

Taking note of resolution 4 (X) of the Economic Commission for Europe,⁶ of resolution 14 (XI) of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East⁷ and of resolution 77 (AC.26) of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,⁸

Considering that inter-regional trade consultations might be useful in strengthening inter-regional trade relations and could contribute to the expansion of world trade,

1. *Authorizes* the regional economic commissions, at the request of interested Governments participating in their work, to decide in each case whether inter-regional trade consultations of the type described in the report of the Secretary-General⁹ should be held in order to facilitate the expansion of international trade;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, if it be decided by at least two of the regional economic commissions that such consultations should be held, to undertake the necessary preparatory work and to convene such consultations among interested Governments participating in the work of the regional economic commissions and interested States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of developments with respect to this matter, and, if it seems necessary in accordance with Council resolution 557 B I (XVIII), to submit recommendations regarding the requisite administrative and financial provisions;

4. *Requests* the regional economic commissions, by every means at their disposal and within their respective terms of reference, to continue their efforts to facilitate concerted action to maintain and strengthen the economic

³ E/2737. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1955.II.C.5.

⁴ E/2729. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1955.II.C.1.

⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 2, document E/2674.

⁶ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 3* (E/2706), Part IV.

⁷ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 5* (E/2712), para. 248.

⁸ E/2756, para. 142.

⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 2, document E/2674.

relations of the countries in their respective regions, both among themselves and with other countries of the world.

*891st plenary meeting,
4 August 1955.*

580 (XX). Annual reports of the regional economic commissions

A

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe¹⁰ for the period between 26 March 1954 and 30 March 1955 and of the views expressed during the discussion at the tenth session of the Commission.

*878th plenary meeting,
15 July 1955.*

B

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East¹¹ for the period between 19 February 1954 and 7 April 1955, of the recommendations contained in the account of the proceedings at the eleventh session of the Commission and of the programme of work and priorities contained therein.

*878th plenary meeting,
15 July 1955.*

C

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America;¹²

2. *Considers* that the work programme of the Commission as established by the Committee of the Whole at its meeting held in Santiago from 9 to 10 May 1955 is of primary importance for the economic development of Latin America;

3. *Endorses* the order of priorities allocated by the Committee of the Whole to the individual work projects.

*878th plenary meeting,
15 July 1955.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 3* (E/2706).

¹¹ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 5* (E/2712).

¹² E/2756.