

related to the particular needs of the land-locked developing countries, in which the Economic and Social Council, in consultation with the appropriate organizations in the United Nations system, is invited to study the desirability and feasibility, including possible ways and means, of establishing a special fund for defraying the additional transport costs of land-locked developing countries,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Group of Experts on the special problems involved in the trade and economic development of the land-locked developing countries³⁸ established by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Recognizing that the lack of information would make it impossible to determine the necessary means for the establishment of a fund to subsidize the additional transport costs of the land-locked developing countries,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and in co-ordination with the respective regional economic commissions, to undertake a complete study on the establishment of a fund, which should include:

(a) Difficulties encountered by the land-locked developing countries in the utilization of transportation means;

(b) Definition of the causes and limitations that create additional transport costs;

(c) Evaluation of the additional transport costs for each land-locked country;

(d) Measures which are being taken to reduce the additional transport costs accruing to developing land-locked countries;

(e) Annual financial assistance required to subsidize the additional transport costs;

(f) The various possible sources of financing and the evaluation of the feasibility of each of these sources;

2. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to bring forth in his study all possible alternatives that may result from his consultations;

3. *Requests* the Governments of the land-locked developing countries as well as the Governments of the transit countries to give all the required data, co-operation and necessary assistance to the Secretary-General, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and to the secretariats of the regional economic commissions, for this purpose;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit this study to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council.

*1855th plenary meeting
16 May 1973*

1756 (LIV). Study on regional structures

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 and 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970,

³⁸ *Official Records of the Trade and Development Board, Tenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 13, document TD/B/308.*

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 2687 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 and Council resolution 1442 (XLVII) of 31 July 1969, dealing with the role of the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office at Beirut in the Second United Nations Development Decade, as well as other resolutions of the Assembly and the Council dealing with decentralization of the economic and social activities of the United Nations and strengthening of the regional economic commissions as enumerated in Council resolution 1442 (XLVII),

Stressing the importance of enhancing the role and the usefulness for Member States of the regional offices in the United Nations system,

Mindful of the need of facilitating the application of an integrated approach,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Regional co-operation: study on regional structures",³⁹

2. *Reaffirms* that the regional economic commissions, in their respective regions, are the main general economic and social development centres within the United Nations system, and calls upon all the organizations and agencies in the system to work closely with the regional economic commissions to achieve the over-all economic and social development objectives at the regional level;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the study referred to in paragraph 4 below and any related recommendations, to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-eighth session a further report on regional structures of the United Nations system aimed at their gradual simplification and adjustment to the realities, needs and aspirations of each region, on the basis of an in-depth analysis of the regional structures of the United Nations system as well as the terms of reference of the respective regional offices, and requests the Secretary-General, in preparing this report, to take into account also:

(a) The opinions of the Member States of the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office at Beirut;

(b) The conclusions of current discussions between the United Nations Development Programme and the regional economic commissions;

(c) The points of view of the specialized agencies concerned whose opinions will be requested by the Secretary-General and, wherever feasible, as expressed by their respective regional conferences;

4. *Requests* the Joint Inspection Unit, for its part, to include in its work programme an in-depth study of the matter, including such recommendations as it may deem appropriate to achieve the above-mentioned purposes.

*1855th plenary meeting
16 May 1973*

1757 (LIV). Study on regional structures: intersecretariat meetings

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2687 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 and Council resolution 1442 (XLVII) of 31 July 1969, dealing with the role of the regional economic commissions and the United

³⁹ E/5127.