



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/L.346
7 November 1957

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twelfth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Draft report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. J.G. HADWEN (Canada)

[Covering note: The Rapporteur, in circulating his draft report, requests those delegations which wish to suggest any changes in this draft to submit them to him or to the Secretary of the Committee by the end of the meeting on Tuesday morning, 12 November 1957. In view of the fact that the summary records of the Committee's proceedings are available to the plenary meetings, the Rapporteur has not endeavoured to summarize the Committee's debates. This is in accord with generally accepted procedure and with the past practices of the Second Committee.]

1. The General Assembly, at its 682nd meeting on 20 September 1957, allocated to the Second Committee for consideration and report item 12 of its agenda, "Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters II, III, IV and V)".^{1/}
2. The Committee considered the item during twenty-seven meetings, held between 2 October and 4 November 1957 (A/C.2/SR.454-480). The first eleven meetings were devoted to the general debate in which fifty-one delegations took part, following upon an introductory statement made by the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs (A/C.2/L.329).
3. The Committee received six specific proposals under the item:
 - (i) Draft resolution by Romania entitled "Declaration on the bases of principles for international economic co-operation" (A/C.2/L.330);

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Session, Supplement No. 3 No. 3 (A/3613).

- (ii) Draft resolution by Mexico entitled "Bases for International Economic Co-operation" (A/C.2/L.337). Romania became a co-sponsor (L.337/Add.1); Amendment by India (A/C.2/L.342) to the above draft resolution (A/C.2/L.337);
- (iii) Draft resolution by Bulgaria entitled "Measures to expedite the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 654 A (XXIV)" (A/C.2/L.332);
- (iv) Draft resolution by Argentina, Australia, Denmark, Iceland, Japan, Norway, Pakistan entitled "Expansion of international trade" (A/C.2/L.335 and L.335/Rev.1);
Amendments by France (A/C.2/L.336), Brazil (see A/C.2/SR.472), Greece (A/C.2/L.340), Afghanistan (A/C.2/L.343 and A/C.2/SR.475) to the above-mentioned seven-Power draft resolution (A/C.2/L.335 and L.335/Rev.1);
- (v) Draft resolution by Czechoslovakia entitled "Activities of the regional economic commissions" (A/C.2/L.333, L.333/Rev.1 and L.333/Rev.2);
Amendments by the United States (A/C.2/L.341, L.341/Rev.1 and L.341/Rev.2), Turkey (see A/C.2/SR.478), Chile (A/C.2/L.344), Tunisia (A/C.2/L.345), to the draft resolutions contained in A/C.2/L.333/Rev.1 and L.333/Rev.2;
- (vi) Draft resolution by Afghanistan, Brazil, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Chile, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen, Yugoslavia, entitled "Proposed Economic Commission for Africa" (A/C.2/L.334, L.334/Add.1 and L.334/Add.2).

4. The present report deals with the above proposals in the order in which action was taken on them by the Committee.

5. The draft resolution by Afghanistan, Brazil, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Chile, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, Lybia, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen, Yugoslavia (A/C.2/L.334, L.334/Add.1 and L.334/Add.2) was received by the Committee at its 465th meeting on 17 October 1957. Under this joint draft resolution the General Assembly would recommend that, with the purpose of giving effective aid to the countries and territories of Africa, and in accordance with Article 68 of the Charter, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of an Economic Commission for Africa.

6. The Committee discussed this joint draft resolution during four meetings (A/C.2/SR.468-471).

7. At the 471st meeting the twenty-nine Power draft resolution (A/C.2/L.334, L.334/Add.1 and L.334/Add.2) was adopted by a roll-call vote of 71 to none, with 2 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Laos, Liberia, Libya, Federation of Malaya, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republics, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia;

Against: None;

Abstaining: Belgium, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

8. The Second Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution I annexed to the present report.

9. The draft resolution by Bulgaria (A/C.2/L.332) and the draft resolution by Argentina, Australia, Denmark, Iceland, Japan, Norway, Pakistan (A/C.2/L.335 and L.335/Rev.1) were discussed together, as agreed by the Committee at its 467th meeting.

10. Under the draft resolution submitted by Bulgaria, the General Assembly would (1) approve Economic and Social Council resolutions 654 A (XXIV) and 654 E (XXIV); (2) consider it desirable that the Secretary-General, in order to facilitate the preparation of the report called for in Economic and Social Council resolution 654 A (XXIV) (on international machinery for trade co-operation), should take into consideration the ideas expressed at the twelfth session of the General Assembly and should elicit the views of the countries concerned on existing practical possibilities for developing international economic co-operation

and expanding international trade on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, and with a view to the removal of obstacles; (3) recommend that the Secretary-General, with a view to accomplishing this task, convene a conference of experts of the countries concerned in 1958, so that the appropriate report may be submitted for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its twenty-sixth session and the question subsequently discussed at the thirteenth session of the General Assembly.

11. Under the seven-Power draft resolution (A/C.2/L.335), the General Assembly would (1) reaffirm the requests contained in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 1027 (XI) which urges the Governments of Member States to continue their efforts to reduce existing barriers to international trade in a mutually satisfactory manner for the purpose of expanding such trade at the fastest feasible rate and (2) urge the Governments of Member States to take action with a view to approving the Agreement on the Organization for Trade Co-operation at as early a date as possible.

12. The Committee discussed these two draft resolutions during six meetings (A/C.2/SR.467-468, 472-475).

13. The following amendments were submitted to the seven-Power draft resolution:

(a) by France (A/C.2/L.336), proposing to add the following paragraph to the preamble:

"Recalling that the Agreement on the Organization for Trade Co-operation makes provisions with respect to membership for all countries which are or shall become Contracting Parties to the General Agreement for Tariffs and Trade or with respect to the association of countries invited by the OTC to take part in its work,";

(b) by Brazil (A/C.2/SR.472), proposing to add at the end of the third paragraph of the preamble the words "having due regard to the special problems arising from the economic development needs of the less developed countries", so that the paragraph would read:

"Recognizing further that for achieving the above-mentioned objective greater efforts should be made to promote free and fair international competition by eliminating or lowering unduly high tariffs and other unjustifiable barriers to international trade, having due regard to the special problems arising from the economic development needs of the less developed countries,";

(c) by Greece (A/C.2/L.340), proposing to insert at the beginning of operative paragraph 2 the words: "Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 654 A (XXIV) of 30 July 1957, and";

(d) by Afghanistan (A/C.2/L.343), proposing to add in the third paragraph of the preamble, after the words "unjustifiable barriers to international trade", the phrase ", including the transit difficulties of land-locked countries," , so that this paragraph would read:

"Recognizing further that for achieving the above-mentioned objective greater efforts should be made to promote free and fair international competition by eliminating or lowering unduly high tariffs and other unjustifiable barriers to international trade, including the transit difficulties of land-locked countries, having due regard to the special problems arising from the economic development needs of the less developed countries,".

At the 475th meeting, the representative of Afghanistan proposed that instead of his amendment described above, a new fourth paragraph in the preamble be inserted reading: "Taking into account General Assembly resolution 1028 (XI) concerning the transit facilities for land-locked countries,". At the same meeting, the representative of Afghanistan agreed, in the light of suggestions made by the representatives of Iran and the Netherlands, that his amendment be changed again to read: "Taking into account General Assembly resolution 1028 (XI) concerning the needs of land-locked countries in the matter of transit facilities,".

14. The above-mentioned four amendments were accepted by the sponsors of the seven-Power draft resolution. The revised text of the proposal (A/C.2/L.335/Rev.1), in which the amendments by France and Brazil had been incorporated, was thus further modified to read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 1027 (XI) of 20 February 1957 and Economic and Social Council resolution 654 A (XXIV) of 30 July 1957,

"Recognizing that further expansion of international trade is necessary to the full employment and the improvement of living standards of all countries and especially to the economic development of the less developed countries,

/...

"Recognizing further that for achieving the above-mentioned objective greater efforts should be made to promote free and fair international competition by eliminating or lowering unduly high tariffs and other unjustifiable barriers to international trade, having due regard to the special problems arising from the economic development needs of the less developed countries,

"Taking into account General Assembly resolution 1028 (XI) concerning the needs of land-locked countries in the matter of transit facilities,

"Considering that, although existing organizations and agreements concerned with international trade have done valuable work in this field, establishment of the Organization for Trade Co-operation, acting as a permanent international body in this field, will further strengthen these existing organizations and agreements,

"Recalling that the Agreement on the Organization for Trade Co-operation makes provisions with respect to membership for all countries which are or shall become Contracting Parties to the General Agreement for Tariffs and Trade or with respect to the association of countries invited by the OTC to take part in its work,

"1. Reaffirms the requests contained in paragraph 1 of the above-mentioned General Assembly resolution which urges the Governments of Member States to continue their efforts to reduce existing barriers to international trade in a mutually satisfactory manner for the purpose of expanding such trade at the fastest feasible rate;

"2. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 654 A (XXIV) of 30 July 1957, and urges the Governments of Member States to take action with a view to approving the Agreement on the Organization for Trade Co-operation at as early a date as possible."

15. The extensive discussion which took place (see A/C.2/SR.472-475) on both draft resolutions was concluded at the 475th meeting.

16. The representative of Bulgaria withdrew his draft resolution (A/C.2/L.332) at the 475th meeting.

17. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics requested a separate vote on each paragraph of the preamble and on operative paragraph 1; he also requested a separate vote on the first part of operative paragraph 2. Further, the representative of Morocco requested a roll-call vote on operative paragraph 2 as a whole.

18. The Committee, at its 475th meeting, voted upon the seven-Power draft resolution, as amended (see paragraph 14 above), with the following results:

The first paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 53 votes to none, with 14 abstentions.

The second paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 63 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The third paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 61 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

The new fourth paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 64 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The fifth paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 45 votes to 8, with 13 abstentions.

The sixth paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 42 votes to 8, with 17 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 1 was adopted by 53 votes to none, with 15 abstentions.

The first part of operative paragraph 2 was adopted by 58 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 2, as a whole, was adopted by a roll-call vote of 37 to 8, with 24 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Burma, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan, Libya, Luxembourg, Federation of Malaya, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil.

Against: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Albania.

Abstaining: Cambodia, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Laos, Liberia, Mexico, Morocco, Panama, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan.

The draft resolution, as a whole, was adopted by 42 votes to 7, with 21 abstentions.

19. The Second Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution II annexed to the present report.

20. The draft resolution by Romania (A/C.2/L.330) was received by the Committee at its 464th meeting. Under this draft resolution, the General Assembly would consider that international economic relations should be based upon: (1) mutual respect for the economic independence of each State; (2) complete respect for the sovereign right of each State to dispose of its natural wealth and resources; (3) the observance, in international economic relations, of equality, equivalent exchanges and mutual advantages; (4) the granting of economic aid and technical assistance to the under-developed countries, free of any conditions which might impair the economic and political independence of these countries; (5) the maintenance of exchanges of experience and of wide contacts in the economic, scientific and technical fields.

21. The Committee discussed the draft resolution by Romania at its 465th and 466th meetings (A/C.2/SR.465-466).

22. The draft resolution by Mexico (A/C.2/L.337) was received by the Committee at its 470th meeting. Under this draft resolution, the General Assembly... recalling that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have on several occasions adopted resolutions embodying various principles relating to international economic co-operation.. would request the Secretary-General to prepare a compendium of resolutions or extracts from them, with a subject index, to facilitate study of the resolutions, and to transmit it as soon as it is prepared, to all Member States.

23. At the 475th meeting, the representative of Romania withdrew his draft resolution (A/C.2/L.330) and stated that Romania co-sponsored the draft resolution by Mexico (L.337/Add.1).

24. The Committee discussed the draft resolution by Mexico at its 472nd meeting and again at its 476th and 477th meetings after it had been co-sponsored by Romania.

25. An amendment by India (A/C.2/L.342), proposing to add at the end of the operative paragraph the words ", and to inform the Economic and Social Council

during 1958 that he has done so." was accepted by the sponsors of the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.337 and L.337/Add.1). The operative paragraph then read as follows:

"Requests the Secretary-General to prepare such a compendium of resolutions or extracts from them, with a subject index, to facilitate study of the resolutions, to transmit it as soon as it is prepared to all Member States, and to inform the Economic and Social Council during 1958 that he has done so."

26. The Committee, at its 476th and 477th meetings, discussed a suggestion made by the representative of Egypt that the compendium referred to in the draft resolution should include declarations and agreements from sources other than the United Nations. The Committee, on the suggestion of the representatives of Egypt and the United States, agreed that the Secretary-General be authorized to annex, at his discretion, some few additional relevant documents other than General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions to the compendium required by the draft resolution.

27. The joint draft resolution (A/C.2/L.337 and L.337/Add.1), as amended, was adopted unanimously at the 477th meeting.

28. The Second Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution III annexed to the present report.

29. The draft resolution by Czechoslovakia (A/C.2/L.333) was received by the Committee at its 465th meeting on 17 October 1957. Under this draft resolution the General Assembly would (1) express satisfaction with the activities and achievements of the regional economic commissions and reaffirm their particular responsibility for promoting economic activities in their respective regions and for strengthening economic relations between countries of their regions and other parts of the world; (2) attach special importance to the valuable help rendered in recent years by the regional commissions in the realization of regional projects, in such fields as promotion of industrialization and development of water resources, which depend on extensive co-operation and pooling of means and efforts on the part of a number of countries; (3) draw attention to the desirability of encouraging a more effective exchange of information and experience in matters of common interest, through the facilities and opportunities offered by the

regional commissions, including co-operation between their respective secretariats; (4) call on the regional commissions to promote further, by concrete measures, within the scope of their terms of reference, regional as well as interregional co-operation with a view to improving economic conditions, especially in the under-developed countries.

30. The Committee received at its 472nd meeting a revised text of this draft resolution (A/C.2/L.333/Rev.1). Under this modified proposal, the General Assembly would (1) express its appreciation of the valuable services of the regional economic commissions, and in particular those rendered in recent years in the realization of projects depending upon co-operation between countries of the region; (2) note with satisfaction the efforts being made by each of the regional economic commissions to further co-ordination of its activities and to streamline its work programme, especially in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 630 A I (XXII), as referred to in paragraph 10 of the annex to Council resolution 664 A (XXIV), and express its belief that these efforts will result in a more effective exchange of information and experience in matters of common interest; (3) express the hope that, within their respective terms of reference and in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, the regional economic commissions will continue their efforts to maintain and strengthen the economic relations of the countries in their respective regions, both among themselves and with other countries of the world.

31. The revised draft resolution by Czechoslovakia was discussed by the Committee at its 477th to 480th meetings.

32. The following amendments were submitted to the revised text by:

(a) the United States (A/C.2/L.341) proposing to replace in operative paragraph 3 the words "countries of the world" with the words "Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies". In the light of a sub-amendment by Turkey (A/C.2/SR.478), this amendment was changed to read "Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies"

(A/C.2/L.341/Rev.1);

(b) Chile (A/C.2/L.344) proposing to delete operative paragraph 3;

(c) Tunisia (A/C.2/L.345) proposing to redraft operative paragraph 3 to read as follows: "3. Expresses the hope that, within their respective

terms of reference and in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, the regional economic commissions will continue their efforts (a) to maintain and strengthen the economic relations of the countries in their respective regions, both among themselves and with other countries of the world; (b) to improve economic conditions, especially in the under-developed countries."

33. A second revised text of the draft resolution by Czechoslovakia (A/C.2/L.333/Rev.2) was received by the Committee at the 479th meeting, in which operative paragraph 3 was changed to read "Expresses the hope that the regional economic commissions will continue, within their respective terms of reference and in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, their valuable services and efforts (a) to strengthen international economic relations, and (b) to improve economic conditions, especially in the less developed countries."

34. In the light of the above second revised text of the draft resolution, the amendments by Chile (A/C.2/L.344) and by Tunisia (A/C.2/L.345) were withdrawn by their sponsors at the 480th meeting. Also at that meeting, the United States submitted a new amendment (A/C.2/L.341/Rev.2) to the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.333/Rev.2) under which operative paragraph 1 would be replaced by the following text:

"1. Expresses its appreciation of the valuable services of the regional economic commissions, and in particular those rendered in recent years in the realization of projects depending upon co-operation among countries participating in the work of the commissions and tending (a) to strengthen international economic co-operation; (b) to improve economic conditions, especially in the less developed countries;"

and the last phrase of operative paragraph 3 reading "(a) to strengthen international economic relations, and (b) to improve economic conditions, especially in the less developed countries" would be deleted.

34. The revised United States amendments (A/C.2/L.341/Rev.2) was accepted by the representative of Czechoslovakia at the 480th meeting.

35. The revised draft resolution by Czechoslovakia (A/C.2/L.333/Rev.2), as amended, was adopted unanimously at the 480th meeting.

36. The Second Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution IV annexed to the present report.

/...

Draft resolution I

PROPOSED ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the urgent need for international co-operation in the economic development of under-developed countries,

Reaffirming its responsibilities and obligations, under Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter, to foster the economic development of all under-developed areas,

Recognizing that the countries and territories of Africa are faced with serious economic problems affecting the welfare and progress of the peoples of the region,

Recognizing that co-operation among the African countries can be of assistance in raising both the level of economic activity and the standards of life in that continent and that such measures would be facilitated by close co-operation with the United Nations and its subsidiary organs,

Considering further that regional economic commissions of the United Nations have performed valuable functions within their respective areas and that their work is vitally important from the point of view of the United Nations, as expressed in General Assembly resolution 627 (VII),

Noting that the work of regional commissions has been extremely useful to the economies of under-developed countries in Asia and Latin America and, therefore, that Africa should benefit from the advantages of such a system,

Noting further that the group of experts appointed by the Secretary-General, at the request of the Economic and Social Council, to study measures for the economic development of under-developed countries, recommended^{1/} in 1951 that "in order to assist the governments and peoples of Africa to analyse and keep under continuous survey the development problems of that continent, the United Nations should establish an Economic Commission for Africa and provide for it an international secretariat",

1/ Measures for the Economic Development of Under-Developed Countries,
United Nations publication, sales No. 1951.II.B.2, document E/1986.

Recommends that, with the purpose of giving effective aid to the countries and territories of Africa, and in accordance with Article 68 of the Charter, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of an Economic Commission for Africa.

Draft resolution II

EXPANSION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The General Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1027 (XI) of 20 February 1957 and Economic and Social Council resolution 654 A (XXIV) of 30 July 1957,

Recognizing that further expansion of international trade is necessary to the full employment and the improvement of living standards of all countries and especially to the economic development of the less developed countries,

Recognizing further that for achieving the above-mentioned objective greater efforts should be made to promote free and fair international competition by eliminating or lowering unduly high tariffs and other unjustifiable barriers to international trade, having due regard to the special problems arising from the economic development needs of the less developed countries,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 1028 (XI) concerning the needs of land-locked countries in the matter of transit facilities,

Considering that, although existing organizations and agreements concerned with international trade have done valuable work in this field, establishment of the Organization for Trade Co-operation (OTC), acting as a permanent international body in this field, will further strengthen these existing organizations and agreements,

Recalling that the Agreement on the Organization for Trade Co-operation makes provisions with respect to membership for all countries which are or shall become Contracting Parties to the General Agreement for Tariffs and Trade or with respect to the association of countries invited by the OTC to take part in its work,

1. Reaffirms the requests contained in paragraph 1 of the above-mentioned General Assembly resolution which urges the Governments of Member States to

/...

continue their efforts to reduce existing barriers to international trade in a mutually satisfactory manner for the purpose of expanding such trade at the fastest feasible rate;

2. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 654 A (XXIV) of 30 July 1957, and urges the Governments of Member States to take action with a view to approving the Agreement on the Organization for Trade Co-operation at as early a date as possible.

Draft resolution III

BASES FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

The General Assembly,

Considering that the strengthening and development of international economic co-operation is, under the Charter, one of the most important means available to the United Nations for the promotion of peaceful relations among peoples;

Recalling that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have on several occasions adopted resolutions embodying various principles relating to international economic co-operation;

Taking into account that a large number of countries have recently been admitted to membership in the United Nations and consequently were not represented in the debates on those resolutions;

Considering also, that in view of the proposals and opinions submitted and expressed before the General Assembly at its twelfth session, it would be useful for all Member States to have at their disposal a compendium of those principles;

Requests the Secretary-General to prepare such a compendium of resolutions or extracts from them, with a subject index, to facilitate study of the resolutions, to transmit it as soon as it is prepared to all Member States, and to inform the Economic and Social Council during 1958 that he has done so.

Draft resolution IV

ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 579 A and 579 B (XX) on expansion of world trade and interregional trade consultations, and resolution 614 A (XXII) on measures for development of trade co-operation,

Recognizing the desirability for a more effective international exchange of views within the framework of the United Nations regarding means of improving international economic conditions as expressed in Economic and Social Council resolution 654 A and E (XXIV),

Considering that within the scope of their activities the regional economic commissions are confronted with similar or related problems,

1. Expresses its appreciation of the valuable services of the regional economic commissions, and in particular those rendered in recent years in the realization of projects depending upon co-operation among countries participating in the work of the commissions and tending (a) to strengthen international economic co-operation; (b) to improve economic conditions, especially in the less developed countries;

2. Notes with satisfaction the efforts being made by each of the regional economic commissions to further co-ordination of its activities and to streamline its work programme, especially in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 630 A I (XXII), as referred to in paragraph 10 of the annex to Council resolution 664 A (XXIV), and expresses its belief that these efforts will result in a more effective exchange of information and experience in matters of common interest;

3. Expresses the hope that the regional economic commissions will continue, within their respective terms of reference and in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, their valuable services and efforts.
