

attention to those countries in the region which were still developing from the economic point of view but it also wanted to make the results of its work more readily available to developing countries throughout the world. He had been asked to promote horizontal co-operation with other regional commissions and, through them, with countries in other parts of the world.

65. In ECE today economic co-operation had replaced the confrontation which had characterized the immediate post-war period. He was optimistic for the future as he looked at developments in the region. The turnover in

East-West trade now amounted to nearly \$60,000 million whereas only 10 years before it had been about \$6,000 million. The number of industrial co-operation agreements had risen to around 1,000 from less than 100; between 60 and 100 were recorded in the secretariat every year. Economic co-operation had, of course, been made possible by political will and political decisions, but he also believed that economic co-operation made its own modest contribution to resolving the remaining political problems and thereby strengthening peace in the region and in the world.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.

2023rd meeting

Thursday, 22 July 1976, at 11 a.m.

President: Mr. S. AKÉ (Ivory Coast)

E/SR.2023

AGENDA ITEM 4

Regional co-operation (E/5607 and Corr.1 and E/5607/Add.1-2, E/5727 and Add.1-2, E/5781, E/5783-5786, E/5801, E/5832, (chap. III, sect. E), E/5835 and Corr.1 and E/5835/Add.1, E/5858)

1. Mr. AHMAD KHAN (Pakistan) said that the reports of the regional economic commissions provided a useful supplement to the *World Economic Survey, 1975* (E/5790 and Add.1) and indicated the diversity of problems and prospects in the less advanced regions of the world.
2. One of the reasons for the instability of the economies of many developing countries was the failure of the market-economy countries to control inflation. Events in the developed countries had an immediate impact on the economies of the developing countries, which suffered greatly from imported inflation. However, the conquest of inflation and the attainment of monetary stability was easier said than done; a great deal of discussion was still going on regarding the causes of inflation and the best ways to overcome it.
3. A key element in the cost of living was food prices. Special attention should be given to the least developed countries in southern Asia and elsewhere, measures being taken at the international level to promote agricultural development and thus make adequate food supplies available.
4. The effect of external influences could be reduced by greater co-operation between countries within a particular region, combined with action on the debt problem. While some countries might be able to weather current difficulties by promotion of exports and other measures, the non-oil-producing countries in particular would face difficulties if action was not taken to tackle the problem of debt relief. Many developing countries were confronted with enormous balance-of-payments deficits; unless some institutional arrangements were made to help them, they would be unable

to maintain their economic activity at more than a minimum level. Institutions such as IBRD, the African Development Bank and the Asian Development Bank, should give them balance-of-payments support on favourable terms, particularly since IMF had indicated that it could only make a limited contribution towards accommodating the deficit of the oil-importing developing countries. In 1975 those countries had been forced to borrow on the Euro-currency market to the extent of half of their balance-of-payments deficit. He paid tribute to the oil-exporting countries of ECWA for their generous help towards solving the balance-of-payments problems of the poorer countries of the region. A great step forward would be taken if aid was not tied; it had been estimated in Pakistan that tying aid reduced its real value by about 35 per cent.

5. He particularly commended the annual report of ECWA (E/5785), which had accomplished a great deal in a short space of time. The Commission included some very rich countries in which economic planning was not sometimes felt to be of high priority. Social progress had lagged behind economic development in the region, and he endorsed the integrated approach to economic and social planning to which the Executive Secretary had referred at the preceding meeting. It might, however, be salutary to discuss the pitfalls associated with planning; the sins of planners and their neglect of institutional and political realities were frequently overlooked. He stressed that a sound statistical and information basis was required for the work of the regional commissions.

6. Turning to the annual report of ESCAP (E/5786), he drew attention to the matter of integrated rural development. Rural development had had a long history of failure in southern Asia since the colonial era; there was a need for a close study to be made of what had gone wrong. Experience in Pakistan had shown that given adequate incentives farmers could attain the required level of productivity. The drift to the towns could be halted by making agriculture more labour-intensive; there was no

need to seek sophisticated solutions; well-trying methods were best.

7. Finally, he stressed that while growth was obviously desirable, the GNP was not in itself an adequate measure of development.

8. Mr. DIETZE (German Democratic Republic) said that the reports of the regional commissions indicated the complexity and diversity of international economic relations.

9. The Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe had created new opportunities for promoting international co-operation, and the thirty-first session of ECE had emphasized the importance of the Final Act of the Conference for increased co-operation between States with different social and political systems. It was now necessary to put the decisions of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe into effect. ECE resolution 1 (XXXI) on the future activities of the Commission and the implementation of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe indicated what role it had to play in that connexion.

10. There had been wide support in ECE for the USSR proposal to hold all-European congresses on questions of co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy (see E/5781, paras. 65-72). His delegation supported the proposal and hoped that such congresses would lead to multilateral agreements among the countries concerned.

11. He reiterated the need for better co-ordination of activities among the principal subsidiary bodies of ECE. In addition, it would be appropriate to examine whether the number of sessions of subsidiary bodies and the number of agenda items could be reduced, thereby enabling the Commission to concentrate on matters of interest to all member States. One such matter was the preparation of an over-all economic projection for the region up to 1990; the preparation of such a projection would be in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3508 (XXX) on the examination of long-term trends in the economic development of the regions of the world.

12. The priorities adopted by ECE had stood the test of time and would provide a good foundation for further progress in applying the principles of peaceful coexistence in relations between States having different social systems. His delegation supported the view that the Commission should concentrate on foreign trade, science and technology, long-term economic trends and environmental protection, but that additional questions such as energy and transport should also be included in its activities.

13. Co-operation among the regional commissions, and the development of relations between them and other United Nations agencies, were becoming increasingly important. The growing participation of experts from other regions in ECE-sponsored activities, including experts from many developing countries, should be encouraged. A further means of promoting co-operation among the regional commissions might be joint investigation of matters

of mutual interest. Studies on economic, scientific and technological co-operation among States of the ECE region should be made more easily available to other regional commissions than hitherto. That would be a way of helping to implement the resolutions of the sixth and seventh special sessions of the General Assembly and of the fourth session of UNCTAD and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States.

14. The decisions taken by CMEA at its thirtieth session reflected the desire of its member States for further socialist economic integration and the adoption of a new order in international economic relations. The communiqué issued at that session stated that, in conformity with their socialist principles, member countries supported the legitimate aspiration of the developing countries to political and economic independence and would do their best to implement the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order (General Assembly resolution 3201 (S-VI)), the Programme of Action (General Assembly resolution 3202 (S-VI)) and other United Nations resolutions on the matter.

15. On the solid basis of economic development and co-operation within CMEA, his country's exports had risen substantially in 1976. Economic, scientific and technological co-operation with the developing countries had been expanded and exports to them had increased, while trade with the developed capitalist countries had also been developed further. The Ninth Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany had recently outlined the prospects for his country's continued economic and social development.

16. All efforts to promote development and co-operation depended on the relaxation of international tension accompanied by disarmament and arms limitation. The proposals made to that effect could release immense material and financial resources for peaceful production and the development of healthy international economic relations.

17. Mr. RUZEK (Czechoslovakia) welcomed the positive results achieved by the regional commissions during the past year, which had contributed to the further economic and social development of member countries.

18. Most delegations at the thirty-first session of ECE had emphasized its particular importance as the first such session since the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, whose conclusions were of great importance for international peace and security, for the improvement of the international climate and, consequently, for international co-operation, particularly between States with different economic and social systems. Bearing in mind that ECE was the most important multilateral instrument for East-West co-operation, the stress placed by delegations from both East and West on the conclusions of the Conference could be readily understood. It was ECE's responsibility to implement a considerable proportion of the tasks resulting from those conclusions in the sphere of economic, scientific and technological co-operation.

19. At the ECE session, the USSR delegation, supported by the delegations of other socialist countries, had proposed that all-European congresses should be held on co-operation in environmental protection, development of transport, and energy, a proposal his delegation fully supported. The areas recommended for discussion were of vital interest to his country and most other ECE member countries.

20. Peace and security in Europe and peaceful co-operation among ECE member countries could have a positive significance for other regions, which could benefit from European experience. His delegation therefore supported the proposals for broadening co-operation between ECE and other regional commissions, thus contributing to the implementation of the new international economic order. Such co-operation could take the form of exchanges of documents and experience, joint research into problems of common interest, greater participation of experts from developing countries in ECE activities, etc.

21. Considerable attention had been paid at the ECE session to the difficult economic situation in Europe and throughout the world. The advantages of the socialist system had enabled the socialist countries to offset the negative influences of that situation on their own economies. They had been successfully carrying out their comprehensive programme of socialist economic integration, had fulfilled their five-year plans and were now concentrating on the targets of the new five-year plans for 1976-1980. Considerable attention had been paid to economic development at the congresses of the communist parties of the socialist countries, including the fifteenth Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

22. ECE should, above all, remain a platform for developing relations among countries with different economic and social systems, while broadening its co-operation with other regional commissions in the manner he had indicated. Its future activities should be carried out in conformity with the conclusions of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and its attention should be focused on four priority areas: trade, scientific and technical co-operation, the environment, and long-term economic projections and planning. His delegation was convinced that ECE and the other regional commissions would continue to play a significant role in the United Nations system.

23. Mr. TARCICI (Democratic Yemen) commended ECWA on its successful work. The Executive Secretary had guided the Commission with skill and dedication. Despite the situation in Lebanon, the young Commission had succeeded in overcoming its administrative difficulties and had worked with great efficiency in a region that was in the process of rapid development and change. It was making every effort to improve the economic situation of the countries of the region and lay the foundations for co-operation among those countries, some of which had made great strides in a variety of fields, including industry. The richer countries, through ECWA, had assisted poorer countries both within and outside the region. His delegation welcomed ECWA's concern with the problem of mutual assistance and fruitful co-operation among the countries of the region, bearing in mind the instability that could be

caused by vast inequalities of income and development between neighbouring countries. The wealth of the region had increased ECWA's prestige and placed it on the same footing as the older-established commissions. Its reputation in the region had enabled it to obtain funds for constructive and imaginative projects of great scope.

24. The Executive Secretary had rightly stated that a better balance between the economic and social aspects of development was urgently required in view of the fact that the social sector had generally lagged behind. He had also rightly drawn attention to the need for regional co-operation and integration.

25. His delegation was increasingly convinced of the need to decentralize the activities of all international organizations and subsidiary bodies. The time had come to strengthen the regional commissions and make them yet more effective through decentralization. His delegation would co-sponsor the draft resolution that was to be submitted on the subject. All the resolutions in the Commission's report deserved the Council's unanimous support.

26. Mr. MARTÍNEZ (Argentina) said that in his excellent statement at the 2022nd meeting the Executive Secretary of ECLA had drawn a number of conclusions which his delegation regarded as important, especially those regarding the vulnerability of the countries of the region and their capacity to cope with the problems which they had encountered in recent years. His delegation fully agreed with the Executive Secretary regarding the insensitivity of the international community to the problems of developing countries at an intermediate stage in their economic and social development, which was the case with most Latin American nations. His delegation also considered it necessary to devise specific solutions and to ensure a better understanding of those special problems by the international community. The work done by ECLA in that connexion was of great importance.

27. A new task of ECLA was to discover the potential of the region. The importance of that task could be gauged from the fact that by 1985 the region was expected to be importing capital equipment worth \$24,000 million. ECLA had done outstanding work in helping the Latin American Economic System to establish its work programme and to undertake its initial tasks: in that regard, he drew attention to paragraphs 47, 316 and 317 of the annual report of ECLA (E/5784). His delegation also congratulated ECLA on the efforts it had made with regard to the payments questions and the co-operation extended to various central banks. Similarly, his delegation welcomed the recent agreement between ECLA and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and was pleased to note the preparatory work done for the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee.

28. Referring to the decentralization of operational activities to the regional commission, he drew attention to the recommendations made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in his report on regional structures of the United Nations system (E/5801, paras. 34-42). He noted

that ECLA was to make an important contribution to the preparations for the United Nations Water Conference.

29. His delegation had followed with interest the activities which ECLA was carrying out in connexion with the establishment of the new international economic order and its contribution to negotiations based on the principles and objectives set out in the Manila Declaration, adopted at the Third Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, held at Manila from 26 January to 7 February 1976. His delegation believed that the support of ECLA and other regional economic commissions in that regard was of great importance.

30. His delegation fully supported the conclusions and suggestions made by the JIU in its report (E/5607 and Corr.1) on the decentralization of United Nations economic, social and related activities and the strengthening of the regional economic commissions. It believed that the resources of the regional commissions should be strengthened.

31. Mr. van LAETHEM (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) said that the documents before the Committee showed the steady development of the regional commissions and the increased influence which they enjoyed among the member Governments in their respective regions. At the same time the executive secretaries had shown an awareness of how much remained to be done to meet those Governments' expectations. The Council should do its utmost to help the regional commissions to increase their authority. They were, for instance, the best centres for collecting information on the economic and social development of the particular region as a whole and should be given the means to use such information to best advantage. Governments' requirements were often expressed directly to the regional commissions, which were consequently well informed of the situations faced by the countries in their region. They should be given the means to satisfy those requirements and to play a due part in operational activities.

32. Their work and that of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs should be complementary. Some operational activities were clearly the concern of the regional commissions and others were clearly within the purview of the Department. The latter should remain with the Department so that it would not lose contact with the Governments and with developments in the field. One example was the assistance which the Department provided to Governments in the area of economic planning. The contacts which it had with the executive secretaries made it possible to demarcate areas of activity in a friendly fashion. Care must be taken not to make hasty generalizations about activities which were transferable and others which were not. To some extent, such questions must be examined on the basis of individual regional commissions, depending on the means available to them and to the Department.

33. His Department and the executive secretaries had similar views on the reciprocal advantages to be gained from the strengthening of the regional commissions. All those concerned wished to move forward in a rational and flexible manner, without creating rivalry in an area where

progress depended on harmony. The capacity of the Department needed to be strengthened to enable it to play its role as a central organ for examining and providing advice on economic and social questions. The matters in respect of which the regional commissions had a major part to play included co-operation among developing countries at the regional or interregional levels. Much progress could be made if the regional commissions embarked with strengthened resources along the road he had indicated.

34. Mr. N'GALLI-MARSALA (Congo) welcomed the increased activity of ECA, which included many newly independent States facing difficult economic development problems. The growth in the Commission's membership was a result of the African countries' struggle against colonialism, a major obstacle to harmonious international economic development and fruitful co-operation among peoples. It was his delegation's hope that in spite of the artificial difficulties preventing the admission of the People's Republic of Angola to the United Nations, it would soon become a member of ECA. It was unrealistic to speak of regional development while ignoring the existence of a country with so many economic assets.

35. His delegation welcomed the efforts made by the ECA secretariat in agriculture and industry. It considered that the establishment of an African industrial development fund was essential and was pleased to see the approval by ECA and UNIDO of multinational projects for Africa, to be financed by UNDP as part of its Programme for the period 1977-1981.

36. Referring to the question of human settlements, he said that his delegation would be glad if the secretariat could relate the results of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements and those of the fourth session of UNCTAD to Africa's expectations with regard to employment and growth and to its other basic needs, so that the joint efforts of ECA and other regional commissions could lead to the establishment of an equitable new international economic order.

37. Mr. PRASASVINITCHAI (Thailand) said that ESCAP covered a huge area with a vast population and comparatively limited natural resources. With a few exceptions, ESCAP members were non-oil-producing developing countries and several were also food deficit countries. The social and economic problems facing the region were manifold, including large-scale and increasing unemployment, severe balance-of-payments deficits, and shortages of food, fertilizers and energy. Seven countries in the region were classified as least developed, and five were land-locked. Since its establishment ESCAP had helped the region to tackle its problems. Its work had improved, expanded and been adjusted to the requirements of its members. The latest annual report (E/5786) gave a good idea of the scope of ESCAP's activities.

38. Besides regional projects, ESCAP should pay attention to subregional projects, some of which had high potential. Those projects included the Lower Mekong Basin Project involving the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Democratic Kampuchea, Viet-Nam and Thailand, which had been going on well for a number of years.

Thailand was willing to co-operate economically and technically with its neighbours on that project, despite the different economic and social systems of the countries concerned. The United Nations and donor countries should therefore continue to give the project financial and technical assistance.

39. On the question of reorganizing the regional commissions and decentralizing activities, it would be recalled that at the fifty-ninth session of the Council, his delegation had sponsored a draft resolution on regional co-operation, calling upon the Secretary-General and the Administrator of UNDP to make the necessary arrangements in order that the regional commissions might function as executing agencies for regional, subregional and interregional projects financed by the Programme. His delegation believed in the decentralization of activities and felt that, since regional commissions were more familiar with the problems of the regions concerned, they should be given more responsibility as executing agencies.

40. Mr. SIDKY (Observer for the Organization of African Unity), speaking at the invitation of the President, paid tribute to the Executive Secretary of ECA. OAU and ECA collaborated closely in many economic, technical and social fields, and the contribution of ECA in the arduous task of building a new international economic and social order was essential. The African continent contained a large majority of developing countries, many of which were among the least developed. While attaching importance to collective regional and subregional autonomy, they naturally supported the policies of the Group of 77.

41. The Summit Conference of OAU, meeting in Mauritius, had welcomed the report by the Executive Secretary of ECA on collaboration with OAU and encouraged him to continue with his work. That position had been confirmed by the Conference of African Heads of State or Government, which had adopted a number of resolutions concerning economic and social matters in Africa.

42. OAU felt that the time had come to take the necessary administrative and budgetary measures to rationalize and strengthen the work of ECA and the other regional commissions. Such measures would involve decentralizing the operational activities of the regional commissions and developing their function as executing agencies. The regional commissions should become focal points for activities in their respective regions and should play a larger part in co-ordinating economic and social policies within the United Nations system.

43. The question of co-operation among developing countries was of vital importance. The regional commissions should identify opportunities for such co-operation and help to promote it. The Conference of African Heads of State or Government, aware of the importance of that task, had decided to convene before the end of 1976 a ministerial meeting at Kinshasa on inter-African co-operation in the field of economics, technology, finance and planning. The Conference had requested the Secretary-General of OAU, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of ECA, to make the preparations for that meeting. The Heads of State or Government had also

requested the Secretary-General of OAU to organize a plenipotentiary meeting in 1977, in collaboration with ECA, with a view to setting up an African centre for the development and transfer of technology. ECA, together with the other regional commissions, would also have an important part to play in the forthcoming Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries at Colombo and the Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries to be held in Mexico. OAU hoped that the regional commissions would be represented at meetings of United Nations organizations where questions of vital concern to them were discussed.

44. Miss FLEYFEL (Observer for Lebanon), speaking at the invitation of the President, paid tribute to the work of ECWA. Her delegation agreed that development must be balanced and harmonized and that it should cover all sectors of the economy of a country and a region.

45. Her own country was going through very serious difficulties and its major concern was to secure assistance. Emergency assistance was needed first of all. She hoped that the appeals launched by bodies such as UNHCR and WHO would not go unheard and that the international community's sympathy for Lebanon would take tangible form. The second kind of assistance needed was long-term aid. It would be recalled that ECWA resolution 24 (III) had designated the Executive Secretary of ECWA as the co-ordinator in Lebanon of assistance channelled through the Special Fund designed to assist in the reconstruction and development of Lebanon.

46. Referring to ECWA resolution 22 (III) concerning the decision to move the Commission's headquarters temporarily from Lebanon, she stressed that maintaining the headquarters at Beirut would be an act of confidence in Lebanon's capacity to recover. She thanked those who had expressed their sympathy for the plight of her country but appealed for action to ensure stability pending a political solution to the crisis, which she hoped could be found through co-operation among all nations.

47. The PRESIDENT said that all members of the Council would have been touched by the speech of the Lebanese representative and would surely do their best to help her country.

48. Mr. KAMHAWI (Observer for the Palestine Liberation Organization), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that his unfortunate task was to remind members of the plight of the Palestinian people. Despite the many resolutions adopted by the political bodies of the United Nations, few results had been achieved. Nevertheless, the Palestinian people had not lost faith in the principles embodied in the United Nations Charter and still had hope in the future. Half of the Palestinian people lived in exile. The other half who lived in the occupied homeland had once again demonstrated peacefully against the oppressive policies of the occupying army and several members of the civilian population had fallen innocent victims because they would not surrender their right to freedom, self-determination and development.

49. The Economic and Social Council and the specialized agencies should play a positive role in correcting the injustice inflicted upon the Palestinian people. They could help in establishing new projects for agricultural development and co-operative farming and for co-operative housing; supporting small industries under heavy stress owing to unfair competition and discriminatory legislation; expanding educational institutions and establishing health services and social welfare programmes to tackle the many problems arising from the splitting up of families or the loss of the breadwinner in exile or prison.

50. The Palestinians were in the forefront of nation-building in the Arab world. Skilled Palestinian workers, engineers, doctors, economists and lawyers played an important part in the development of the Arab countries as a whole. In the past few years the Palestinian people had achieved political autonomy of decision and had forged the instruments for preserving and reconstructing their society, threatened by Zionist occupation and physical dispersion.

51. Professional and social groups had assembled in general unions, all represented and actively participating in the parliament of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the National Council. A planning centre, a research centre, industrial units, medical services and many educational institutions had been set up. The Palestine Liberation Organization was trying hard and successfully to create the necessary organizational infrastructure to administer econ-

omic and social programmes for the benefit of the Palestinian people. Regular consultations and close co-operation between the United Nations system and the Palestine Liberation Organization would be of great assistance in consolidating the identity of the Palestinian people and in responding to the challenges with which they were faced.

52. Yet another ordeal through which the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples were passing was the recent plot by imperialism and neo-colonialism resulting in the tragedy of Lebanon. The Palestine Liberation Organization hoped that the territorial integrity, national sovereignty and well-being of the Lebanese people would be safeguarded, and therefore fully supported ECWA resolutions regarding the reconstruction and development of Lebanon.

53. The Palestine Liberation Organization strongly supported ECWA, which had worked hard and under difficult conditions for the well-being of the region of Western Asia, and wished to co-operate with the Commission in the best interests of all concerned.

54. Finally, he expressed the Palestinian people's support for the Declaration of Abidjan adopted by the Council (E/RES/2009 (LXI)) and stressed the need to put it into practice.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.

2024th meeting

Thursday, 22 July 1976, at 3.30 p.m.

President: Mr. S. AKÉ (Ivory Coast)

E/SR.2024

AGENDA ITEM 4

Regional co-operation (*continued*) (E/5607 and Corr.1 and E/5607/Add.1-2, E/5727 and Add.1-2, E/5781, E/5783-5786, E/5801, E/5832 (chap. III, sect. E), E/5835 and Corr.1 and E/5835/Add.1, E/5858)

1. Mr. PATHMARAJAH (International Labour Organisation) expressed the ILO's thanks to the regional commissions and the other United Nations bodies which had responded so effectively to the request of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1968 (LIX) for co-operation in preparing the Tripartite World Conference on Employment, Income Distribution and Social Progress and the International Division of Labour.

2. ECLA, ESCAP and ECA/ECWA had held preparatory meetings at Cartagena, Bangkok and Tunis respectively, with the co-operation of the Governments of Colombia, Thailand and Tunisia, which had provided conference facilities while participants had met their own expenses. A document had been produced by the Commissions in conjunction with the ILO and based on the report entitled *Employment, growth and basic needs: A one-world prob-*

lem prepared by the ILO in 1976 for the Tripartite World Conference on Employment. Those two documents had in turn formed the basis of the tentative conclusions reached by consensus. The tentative conclusions and further studies by workers and employers had paved the way for the final document (E/5857), adopted by consensus at the Conference, which the Director-General of the ILO had already presented to the Council (2015th meeting). Proposals for a strategy to implement the Programme of Action in that document would be submitted to the Governing Body of the ILO in November 1976.

3. Other United Nations bodies had assisted in the preparatory work for the Conference, particularly the World Bank, FAO and WFP. The Trade and Development Board by decision 134 (XV) had requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to submit to the Conference a report on the impact on employment of international policy measures in the field of trade and development. That study and other working papers of the Conference were to be published in two volumes by the ILO in August 1976.

4. The Programme of Action adopted by the Conference had called for the continued collaboration of United