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## REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

### Report of the Second Committee

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

1. The General Assembly, at its 682nd meeting on 20 September 1957, allocated to the Second Committee for consideration and report chapters II, III, IV and V of the report of the Economic and Social Council<sup>1/</sup> (item 12 of the agenda of the twelfth session).
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 were devoted to the general debate in which fifty-one delegations took part, following 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);
  - (ii) Draft resolution by Mexico entitled "Bases for international economic co-operation" (A/C.2/L.337), of which Romania became a co-sponsor (A/C.2/L.337/Add.1);Amendment by India (A/C.2/L.342) to the above draft resolution;

<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/3613).

- (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 and Pakistan entitled "Expansion of international trade" (A/C.2/L.335 and 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 draft resolution;
- (v) Draft resolution by Czechoslovakia entitled "Activities of the regional economic commissions" (A/C.2/L.333 and Revs.1 and 2);  
Amendments by the United States (A/C.2/L.341 and Revs.1 and 2), Turkey (see A/C.2/SR.478), Chile (A/C.2/L.344), Tunisia (A/C.2/L.345), to the text of the above draft resolution 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 and Yugoslavia, entitled "Proposed Economic Commission for Africa" (A/C.2/L.334 and Adds.1 and 2).

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

## I

5. The 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 and Yugoslavia (A/C.2/L.334 and Adds.1 and 2) was received by the Committee at its 465th meeting on 17 October 1957. Under this draft resolution, the General Assembly would recommend that, for 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 draft resolution during four meetings (A/C.2/SR.468-471).

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7. At the 471st meeting the twenty-nine Power draft resolution 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, Malaya, (Federation of), 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 Republic, 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.

## II

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

10. Under the Bulgarian draft resolution, the Assembly would (1) approve Economic and Social Council resolution 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)

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[on international machinery for trade co-operation], should take into consideration the ideas expressed at the twelfth session of the 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 in 1958, a conference of experts of the countries concerned so that the appropriate report might be submitted for consideration by the Council at its twenty-sixth session and the question be subsequently discussed at the thirteenth session of the Assembly.

11. Under the seven-Power draft resolution (A/C.2/L.335), the Assembly would: (1) reaffirm the requests contained in paragraph 1 of its resolution 1027 (XI), which urged 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:

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"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, a new fourth paragraph should be added to the preamble 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 representative of Iran and the Netherlands, that his amendment should be further modified 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 already 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,

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"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 the seven-Power and the Bulgarian 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 and

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on the first part of operative paragraph 2. The representative of Morocco further 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 para. 14 above), with the following results:

Preamble:

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

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

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

The fourth paragraph was adopted by 64 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

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

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

Operative part:

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

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

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

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

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

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.

### III

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 at its 465th and 466th meetings (A/C.2/SR.465 and 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 had 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 prepared to all Member States.

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

24. The Committee discussed the Mexican draft resolution 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).

26. The Committee, at its 476th and 477th meetings, discussed a suggestion made by the representative of Egypt that the proposed compendium 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 should be authorized to annex to the compendium, at his discretion, some few additional relevant documents other than General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions.

27. The draft resolution by Mexico and Romania (A/C.2/L.337 and 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.

#### IV

29. The draft resolution by Czechoslovakia (A/C.2/L.333) was received by the Committee at its 465th meeting. 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

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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 inter-regional co-operation with a view to improving economic conditions, especially in the under-developed countries.

30. A revised text of this draft resolution (A/C.2/L.333/Rev.1) was submitted at the 472nd meeting. 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 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 Czechoslovak draft resolution was discussed by the Committee at its 477th to 480th meetings.

32. The following amendments were submitted:

(a) By the United States of America (A/C.2/L.341) to replace in operative paragraph 3 the words "countries of the world" by the words "Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies". In the light of a sub-amendment by Turkey (see 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);

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- (b) By Chile (A/C.2/L.344) to delete operative paragraph 3;
- (c) By Tunisia (A/C.2/L.345) 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 (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 second revised text, the amendments of Chile (A/C.2/L.344) and of Tunisia (A/C.2/L.345) were withdrawn by their sponsors at the 480th meeting. Also at that meeting, the United States submitted new amendments (A/C.2/L.341/Rev.2) to replace operative paragraph 1 by the following:

"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 to delete 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".

35. The revised United States amendments were accepted by the representative of Czechoslovakia at the 480th meeting.

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

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37. 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) of 21 December 1952,

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,<sup>1/</sup> in 1951, that "in order to assist the Governments and peoples of Africa to analyse and keep

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<sup>1/</sup> Measures for the Economic Development of Under-Developed Countries, United Nations publication, sales No. 1951.II.B.2 (E/1956).

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",

Recommends that, for 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 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) of 20 February 1957 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 Organization for Trade Co-operation to take part in its work,

1. Reaffirms the requests contained in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 1027 (XI) of 20 February 1957, 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 the fact 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.

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Draft resolution IV

Activities of the regional economic commissions

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 579 A and B (XX) of 4 August 1955 on expansion of world trade and inter-regional trade consultations, and Council resolution 614 A (XXII) of 9 August 1956 on measures for the 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 resolutions 654 A and E (XXIV) of 30 July 1957,

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, and (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 part I of Economic and Social Council resolution 630 A (XXII) of 9 August 1956, as referred to in paragraph 10 of the annex to Council resolution 664 A (XXIV) of 1 August 1957, 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.

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