

**225 (XXI). THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ESCWA CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON  
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT  
AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

*Recognizing* the vital role played by the development of scientific and technological capabilities and technological innovation in achieving the goals of sustainable development,

*Recognizing also* the need to integrate and coordinate the endeavours of all the parties concerned with the development of scientific and technological capabilities, including bodies from the public, joint and private sectors and the institutions of civil society, to employ technological innovation in order to promote the productivity and competitiveness of the production and services sectors in member countries,

*Noting* the possibilities which technological innovation capabilities offer with regard to facing the challenges and demands of globalization and the new systems and measures relating to the quality of products, the preservation of intellectual property rights and environmental protection,

*Inspired* by the specialized committees for the support of development endeavours based on scientific and technological development established by the other United Nations regional commissions,

1. *Decides* to establish a consultative committee on scientific and technological development and technological innovation, the main responsibility of which will be to sponsor endeavours aimed at scientific and technological development and technological innovation. The committee shall be composed of distinguished experts in the field, and shall have the following duties:

(a) To advise on the endeavours exerted by member countries with a view to acquiring modern technology and support such endeavours with regional and international expertise, with particular reference to information and communications technology, biotechnology and new materials technology;

(b) To propose ways of integrating and coordinating efforts aimed at transferring, adapting and mastering this technology, and promoting regional cooperation in these fields;

(c) To advise on priorities related to the programmes of work and medium-term plans adopted by ESCWA in the fields of developing scientific and technological capabilities and technological innovation;

(d) To follow up on the resolutions and recommendations of international and regional conferences relating to the development of scientific and technological capabilities and technological innovation which are attended by member countries; and to coordinate efforts related to the implementation of such resolutions and recommendations;

2. *Decides also* that this consultative committee on scientific and technological development and technological innovation shall hold its meetings at least once every two years, with effect from 2002;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to follow up implementation of this resolution and to submit a report on the progress that has been achieved in this regard to the Commission's twenty-second session.

3rd plenary meeting  
11 May 2001