

232 (XXI). PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 2002-2003

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000 on programme planning, which adopts the medium-term plan of the United Nations for the period 2002-2005,

Noting that the medium-term plan reflects overall objectives, strategies and expected accomplishments for a four-year period,

Noting also that the objectives, strategies and expected accomplishments of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 are consistent with those of the medium-term plan,

Conscious that a new mechanism for accountability throughout the United Nations system has been fully elaborated in the programme budget for the period 2002-2003,

Conscious also of the need for cooperation on the part of member States in assessing the relevance of the work of the secretariat and in providing feedback on the operational aspects of the new system of accountability now in place,

Commending the efforts of the secretariat to conduct early consultations with member States, at the planning stage, on the relevance of the proposed priorities and outputs,

Also commending the efforts of the secretariat to consult the offices of the United Nations Development Programme located in ESCWA member countries on country priorities identified in Common Country Assessment reports,

1. *Approves* the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to member States any changes introduced thereto;
3. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to distribute the programme budget to member States once it has been endorsed by the General Assembly.

3rd plenary meeting
11 May 2001