

331 (XXX). Comprehensive approaches to technical cooperation in response to member States' emerging needs

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling resolution 328 (XXIX) of 15 December 2016 on technical cooperation to meet the needs and priorities of member States, which recognized the importance of technical cooperation programmes and called for the revitalization of the Technical Cooperation Network as an essential coordination body for such programmes,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 67/226 of 21 December 2012, 71/243 of 21 December 2016 and 72/279 of 31 May 2018, adopted in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in which it encouraged resident coordinators and United Nations country teams to draw more upon the normative support work and policy expertise that exists within the regional commissions, recognized the contribution of the regional commissions and of subregional, regional and interregional cooperation in addressing development challenges, and reaffirmed the role and functions of the United Nations development system at the regional level, including the regional economic commissions and the regional teams of the United Nations development system, and underlined the need to continue to make them fit for purpose in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Aware of the emerging challenges in the Arab region, particularly the difficulties associated with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,¹

Underlining that there is scope for better long-term planning of ESCWA technical cooperation activities to ensure optimal deployment of resources and accountability for implementation, while maintaining flexibility in the delivery of demand-driven activities,

1. *Commends* the efforts of the secretariat in building on its comparative advantages and linking its technical cooperation work with its other core functions of research, analysis and consensus-building to support policy formulation, and notes with appreciation its additional efforts in catering to the increasing needs of member States;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the ongoing collaboration with United Nations country teams on the development of technical cooperation activities by the secretariat and member States according to their priorities, and for the efforts exerted by the secretariat to provide support to United Nations development entities operating in the Arab region by virtue of its thought leadership position;

3. *Requests* the secretariat to leverage its coordination role among United Nations regional development entities in the establishment of mechanisms to provide guidance for technical cooperation activities along with member States and to enhance their impact.

Seventh plenary meeting
Beirut, 28 June 2018

¹ General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015.