

308 (XXVII). The regional dimension of development

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

Recognizing the importance of the regional dimension of development for an effective and coordinated response to an ever-growing number of transboundary challenges and issues and the increasing importance of regional measures as a buffer against global shocks and crises,

Emphasizing that measures taken at the regional level constitute essential pillars of the world order, as they provide a link between the global and national levels, especially in the context of the ongoing discussions concerning an integrated approach to sustainable development and the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda,

Stressing the important role played by the regional commissions as part of the institutional landscape through norm-setting and dissemination, undertaking analytical functions, articulating regional perspectives on global issues and coordinating countries' positions in each region,

Referring to General Assembly resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007 concerning the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in which it encouraged the United Nations development system to strengthen collaboration with regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations and regional banks, as appropriate and consistent with their respective mandates, and requested the regional commissions to further develop their analytical capacities to support country-level development initiatives at the request of member countries, and to support measures for more intensive inter-agency collaboration at the regional and subregional levels,

Referring also to Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/46 of 31 July 1998 in which it noted that the leadership role of the regional commissions calls for their holding regular inter-agency meetings in each region with a view to improving coordination among the work programmes of the United Nations organizations in that region,

Noting the independent study on the regional dimension of development and the United Nations system* sponsored by the regional commissions,

1. *Welcomes* the recommendations of the independent study on the regional dimension of development and the United Nations system, and invites the United Nations bodies working at the global and regional levels to support their implementation;

2. *Requests* the secretariat, in consultation with regional and subregional organizations and with the Regional Coordination Mechanism where appropriate, to ensure implementation of those recommendations, so that the engagement of the United Nations system with regional and subregional organizations is coherent and coordinated, contributes to the realization of strategic goals and fits into a larger comprehensive approach in support of regional integration efforts;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its twenty-eighth session on the implementation of this resolution.

7th plenary meeting
10 May 2012

* See the executive summary of the study prepared by ESCWA in document E/ESCWA/27/CRP.3, which was submitted to the Commission at its twenty-seventh session.