

57 (V). Assistance to member countries in the field of external trade policies and planning

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) on international trade, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development resolution 91 (IV) on multilateral trade negotiations and the Tokyo Declaration on this subject, especially the need to increase the benefits accruing to developing countries from international trade,

Considering the important role that external trade plays in the economies of member countries,

Aware of the difficulties and problems that these countries face, especially the least developed among them, in planning their foreign trade sectors and formulating appropriate policies,

Aware also of the urgent need to strengthen the capability of member countries to overcome these difficulties, with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the contribution of the external sector towards achieving the objectives of economic and social development in these countries,

1. Recommends the establishment of the necessary project at the regional level to assist member countries to increase their capabilities in the field of external trade planning and policies to meet their economic and social development requirements;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to take the appropriate measures, in consultation and co-ordination with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Trade Centre, to provide the assistance required;

3. Urges the United Nations Development Programme to provide the financial support needed for the activities proposed by the Executive Secretary to implement the measures mentioned in the preceding two paragraphs.

10th meeting
6 October 1978