

### **332 (XXX) Developing the work of the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

*Referring* to its resolutions 313 (XXVII) of 10 May 2012 on the frequency of sessions of the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development in the Countries of the ESCWA region, and 214 (XIX) of 7 May 1997 on the establishment of that Committee,

*Recalling* the Doha Declaration on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by member States at their twenty-ninth session,<sup>1</sup> in which they requested that focus be placed on financing for development and that a forum for discussing the issue be created,

*Taking* into consideration the recommendations of the twelfth<sup>2</sup> and eleventh<sup>3</sup> sessions of the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development on splitting the Committee into two committees, which would each hold biennial sessions,

*Realizing* the importance of increased participation of member States in prioritizing, planning and developing ESCWA programmes on financing for development,

*Aware* of the need to enhance coordination and complementarity between ESCWA and Arab regional organizations in their work on financing for development policies, in order to respond to member States' needs and build their capacity to finance national development plans,

*Recognizing* the importance of the role of ESCWA in tackling trade policy issues to support Arab States on the path towards regional integration and sustainable development,

*Guided* by action taken by other United Nations regional commissions to develop the work of their subsidiary bodies to better respond to the priorities of their member States,

1. Approves the splitting of the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development into two committees denominated "Committee on Financing for Development in ESCWA member States" and "Committee on Trade Policies in ESCWA member States", which would each hold biennial sessions, without any additional financial implications;

2. Decides that the Committee on Financing for Development shall undertake the following:

(a) Discussing priorities under the programme of work and mid-term action plans of ESCWA in the field of financing for development;

(b) Following up on progress in financing for development policies in member States and making recommendations in that regard;

(c) Monitoring developments in regional and international forums, conferences and processes with regard to financing for development, and coordinating regional efforts towards the implementation of related resolutions and recommendations emanating from such platforms;

(d) Supporting cooperation between the ESCWA secretariat and specialized ministerial councils of the League of Arab States, and organizations and unions formed under its umbrella, and with other specialized regional organizations, to build capacity and harmonize policies and strategies aimed at leveraging

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<sup>1</sup> E/ESCWA/29/12/Report.

<sup>2</sup> E/ESCWA/EDID/2017/IG.2/9/Report.

<sup>3</sup> E/ESCWA/EDID/2017/IG.3/11/Report.

funds to finance development; and supporting communication efforts, partnerships and the harmonization of positions in the international arena;

3. *Decides* that the Committee on Trade Policies shall undertake the following:

(a) Discussing priorities under the programme of work and mid-term action plans of ESCWA in the field of trade policies;

(b) Following up on progress in trade policies in member States and making recommendations in that regard;

(c) Monitoring developments in regional and international forums, conferences and processes with regard to trade policies, and coordinating regional efforts towards the implementation of related resolutions and recommendations emanating from such platforms;

(d) Supporting cooperation between the ESCWA secretariat and specialized ministerial councils of the League of Arab States, and organizations and unions formed under its umbrella, and with other specialized regional organizations, to build capacity and harmonize policies and strategies to develop trade policies; and supporting communication efforts, partnerships and the harmonization of positions in the international arena;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to present a report to the Commission on its thirty-first session on the implementation of this resolution.

7th plenary meeting  
28 June 2018