

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 37/16 of 16 November 1982 and 40/3 of 24 October 1985,

Recognizing that the promotion and achievement of the ideals of peace by all possible means constitutes a fundamental purpose of the Charter of the United Nations,

Inspired by the proclamation by the United Nations of the International Year of Peace, which states that international peace and security constitute a universal ideal and that their promotion requires continuing and positive action by States and peoples aimed at the prevention of war, removal of various threats to peace - including the nuclear threat - respect for the principle of non-use of force, the resolution of conflicts and peaceful settlement of disputes,

Proceeding from the principles of the Islamic religion and of those revealed religions which call for peace and good-neighbourliness,

Recalling its terms of reference, whose objective it is to raise the level of economic activity, to maintain and strengthen economic relations and to deal with the social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship of economic and social factors,

Expressing the belief that aggression in all its forms, the woes of war suffered by the region of Western Asia and the cumulative devastating effects of continuing hostilities cause aggravated material, human, economic and social damage where, instead, the full potential of the countries concerned should be made available for effective participation in development efforts and the promotion of the interests of their peoples,

Proclaims:

(a) Its determination to work for peace in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) Its affirmation of the need to find a just solution to the Palestine question, by means of the full application of United Nations resolutions, in order that the Palestinian people may be enabled to exercise its legitimate right to self-determination under the leadership of its sole legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization;

(c) Its affirmation that the prolongation of the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq constitutes a violation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations with respect to peace and depletes the human and material capacities of the two parties and of the countries of the region, thus threatening the interests of the peoples of the region in regard to economic and social development, particularly in view of the fact that Iraq has adopted a positive attitude towards United Nations resolutions calling for an end to the war and for the establishment of peace;

(d) Its affirmation that the continuation of the current situation in Lebanon has posed a threat to that country's sovereignty, security and territorial integrity and caused a deterioration in its economic and social situation;

(e) Calls upon the Secretary-General, the General Assembly and the international community to provide further support for efforts to solve these issues in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and in keeping with the spirit of the International Year of Peace.

3rd plenary meeting
24 April 1986