

**280 (XXV). Request from the Sudan to become a member of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

*Referring* to its approval, at its twenty-third session, which was held in Damascus from 9 to 12 May 2005, of the request submitted by the Sudan to take part in ESCWA meetings and activities in the capacity of an observer,

*Noting* that, since approval was granted, representatives of that country have participated in a number of ESCWA meetings and technical activities and that such cooperation has strengthened the relationship between the Sudan and both the ESCWA secretariat and other member countries,

*Referring* to the letter dated 5 June 2007 addressed to the secretariat by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan, affirming the desire of that country to increase cooperation with ESCWA and its member countries, and requesting to become a member of the Commission,

*Taking into consideration* paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1818 (LV) dated 9 August 1973 concerning the terms of reference of the Commission, which provides as follows: the members of the Commission shall consist of the States Members of the United Nations situated in Western Asia which at present call on the services of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut. Future applications for membership by Member States shall be decided on by the Council upon the recommendation of the Commission,

*Recalling* that the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia do not discuss the geographical location of countries which may become members thereof or proscribe a member of one regional commission from being at the same time a member of another regional commission,

*Recalling also* that most of the other regional commissions have as members countries that are not located in the region that they serve,

1. *Welcomes* the request made by the Sudan to become a member of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;

2. *Requests* the secretariat to put forward to the Economic and Social Council for action the recommendation that the request for membership by the Sudan should be approved.

10<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting  
29 May 2008