

**296 (XXVI). Enhancing public sector institutions and resources
to attain national development goals**

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

Guided by the Declaration on the Rights to Development¹ that consecrated Development as an inalienable human right and by the existing direct correlation between modernization of the public sector and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),

Guided also by General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions pertaining to the mutually reinforcing relationship between public administration and development, with particular emphasis on General Assembly resolution 60/34 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/32, which clearly acknowledge the positive impact of institutional development and capacity-building on socio-economic development,

Recognizing that development/modernization of the public sector and its institutions and resources is a continuous and evolutionary process that contributes to improving performance in development areas,

Welcoming the growing interest expressed by member countries in public sector institutions and resource development/modernization programmes,

Noting with appreciation the positive impact of the various public sector institutions and resource development activities and initiatives implemented by ESCWA aiming at enabling the public sector to lead national modernization and development endeavours, as well as documenting successful experiences in increasing extrabudgetary resources and forging partnerships to facilitate the implementation of public sector development programmes,

Noting with great concern the introduction of public sector development/modernization concept through institutional development as a key component of ESCWA's strategy for the enhancement of national socio-economic development efforts,

1. *Appeals* to member countries to:

(a) Continue public sector institutions and resource modernization/development, as needed, and enhance the resilience of those institutions to occupation, conflict and their spillover effects, in addition to the ramifications of global and regional challenges;

(b) Build upon the successes achieved through implemented public sector development/modernization strategies as a tool for conflict mitigation and peacebuilding;

(c) Invest additional resources in meeting the requests of member countries for building the capacities of public sector workers, particularly in the fields of enhancing and developing public human and financial resource management;

2. *Requests* the secretariat to:

¹ General Assembly resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986.

(a) Follow up successful public sector development initiatives taken by some member countries aiming at increasing progress in achieving the MDGs and mitigating the negative impact and spillover effects of emerging global challenges;

(b) Enhance institutional development programmes through strengthening analytical research, advisory services and training, integrating further research and analysis in the normative and operational work, and continuing to work with national and international partners in developing joint interventions to that effect, particularly in conflict-affected countries;

(c) Draw guidance from successful international and regional models, disseminate best practices and build on them through a collaborative approach with member countries;

(d) Ensure that additional human and financial resources are made available for the required normative and operational work to devise public sector development/modernization programmes, particularly in the areas of strengthening and developing public human and financial resource management in member countries upon their request;

3. *Invites* member countries and donors to support ESCWA in its endeavour to formulate and implement public sector development/modernization initiatives in member countries aimed at further enhancing public sector institutional capacity to lead the attainment of national development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and strengthen peacebuilding efforts;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit to the Commission at its twenty-seventh session a report on the progress achieved in implementing this resolution and the achievements of ESCWA in that regard.

7th plenary meeting
19 May 2010