

302 (XXVII). Requests from Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia to become members of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

Noting that Libya, Morocco and Tunisia have consistently participated, in the capacity of observers and through representatives, in all sessions of ESCWA since 2005 and in ESCWA meetings and activities,

Noting also that such participation has enhanced cooperation and strengthened the relationship between Libya, Morocco and Tunisia and ESCWA secretariat and member countries,

Taking note of the letters dated 7 February and 2 March 2012 addressed to the secretariat by the Embassy of Tunisia in Beirut, affirming the desire of Tunisia to increase cooperation with ESCWA and its member countries, and requesting to become a member of the Commission,

Taking note also of the request of Libya presented on 7 May 2012 and the request of Morocco presented on 8 May 2012 to become members of the Commission,

Referring to paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1818 (LV) of 9 August 1973, on the establishment of the Economic Commission for Western Asia, which stipulates that the members of the Commission shall consist of the States Members of the United Nations situated in Western Asia which (at that time) called on the services of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut, and that 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 of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia as stipulated in Economic and Social Council resolution 1818 (LV) do not limit 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,

Noting that the other regional commissions have member countries that are not located in the region that they serve,

Noting also that some countries are members of more than one regional commission,

1. *Welcomes* the requests made by Libya, Morocco and Tunisia to become members of the Commission;

2. *Requests* the secretariat to submit a recommendation to the Economic and Social Council that the requests of Libya, Morocco and Tunisia be approved;

3. *Also requests* the secretariat to invite all other Arab countries to become members of ESCWA and to coordinate with the relevant United Nations entities and the League of Arab States the re-designation of ESCWA to become the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for the Arab Region.

7th plenary meeting
10 May 2012