

90(VIII). Expansion of the regional advisory services provided by the Economic Commission for Western Asia in connexion with the agro-industries and international trade

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling the review of the programme of work and priorities for 1982-1983, submitted by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Noting with appreciation the endeavours of the Commission's secretariat in the field of the regional advisory services which it has undertaken during the past years,

Recognizing the importance of advisory services in helping member States to solve many of the problems and bottlenecks encountered in their developmental efforts in various economic and social spheres,

Noting with regret that the financial and human resources allocated to regional advisory services in the work programme for 1982-1983 are inadequate to meet the pressing needs of the countries of the region at the national and regional levels in some vital fields, especially the development and rationalization of the agro-industries in general, the food and textile industries in particular and also questions of international trade which have a definite impact on various aspects of economic activity,

1. Recommends the establishment of advisory services in the field of the agro-industries and textiles industries in order to complement effectively the services provided by international agencies specialized in this field;
2. Further recommends the allocation of the funds needed to provide advisory services in the field of international trade and the balances of payments, to promote exports and to rationalize imports in the interest of comprehensive economic and social development;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to establish the necessary contacts with the United Nations Development Programme and with the other international authorities and bodies concerned, in order to secure the financial resources needed for the provision of the advisory services referred to;
4. Calls upon the member States to make the necessary efforts to support the activity of the Executive Secretary aimed at providing the requisite advisory services;
5. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the Commission at its ninth session a report on the measures taken in this connexion.

8th meeting
6 May 1981