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Item 14 of the provisional agenda

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE
IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
(1985-1994)

Note by the Executive Secretary

84-0272

1. During its 41st plenary meeting on 29 July 1983, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations adopted resolution 1983/69 on a Transport and Communications Decade in Asia and the Pacific (1985-1994). In paragraph 5, the resolution calls upon the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) to take appropriate action to collaborate with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) for the incorporation of the Western Asian region in the programme of action for the Decade.

2. Pursuant to the resolution, the ECWA secretariat, through its Transport and Communications Division, has established appropriate contacts with the ESCAP secretariat to follow-up the activities undertaken in preparation for the Decade. In this context, ECWA has participated in the first Ad_Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting in Preparation for the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 10 to 13 October 1983, and was fully informed of the findings and outcome of the second Ad_Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting held at Bangkok from 23 to 26 January 1984.

3. Furthermore, and in an attempt to formulate the possible and desirable participation of the ECWA region in the Transport and Communications Decade in Asia and the Pacific, the ECWA secretariat has prepared the background paper presented to the Standing Committee for the Programme in its second session (E/ECWA/XI/CP/4, Appendix). This document, after having introduced the background and the preparatory activities for the decade, discusses the objectives and main features of a possible ECWA participation in the Decade, underlining organizational, financial and other implications which may result from the integration of Western Asia into the Decade's programme of action. Proposals put forward for consideration by ECWA member States in this document, include inter alia, actions to be undertaken by ECWA countries and by the ECWA secretariat, and guidelines for the ECWA programme of action for the Decade to be integrated into a joint ESCAP/ECWA action plan.

4. With a view to the importance of the Transport and Communications Decade for the ECWA region, and for the purpose of appropriate participation of the Western Asia region in the Decade's activities, the Commission, under its agenda item 14, may wish to consider appropriate measures regarding the Commission's role in the Transport and Communication Decade in Asia and the Pacific (1985-1994).