

1997/14. Organizational and programme changes and modifications introduced by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia since 1994

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991, 46/235 of 13 April 1992, 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Noting the new trends towards the reform and adaptation of the United Nations in accordance with current world developments,

Recalling resolution 191 (XVI) of 2 September 1992 of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,⁵²

Taking note of the organizational and programme changes and modifications introduced by the Commission since 1994,⁵³

Confirming that the priorities established in the light of recent developments correspond to the needs of States members of the Commission,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the organizational and programme changes made and the methods adopted by the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in carrying out its activities, which have made it possible to address development issues within an integrated perspective, enabled the entities concerned in the member States to make a greater contribution to the formulation of the programmes of work of the Commission and to the follow-up of their implementation and promoted greater coordination and integration with United Nations agencies and organizations as well as national and regional institutions concerned with regional development, cooperation and integration;

2. *Calls* for the enhancement of the function of the Commission as a basic forum for coordinating the economic and social policies of its member States and for the development of its role in supporting regional and subregional projects aimed at expanding economic and social cooperation among member States at both the regional and subregional levels;

3. *Also calls* for the reinforcement of the role of the United Nations at the regional level, which entails the promotion of the role of the regional commissions in representing the regional dimension of global issues and in integrating United Nations activities at the national, regional and international levels;

4. *Further calls* for the granting to the Commission, within the framework of the reform of the United Nations system, of a broader mandate for carrying out its activities, including those related to regional technical cooperation projects, and for the strengthening of its role in coordinating, in the region in which it operates, the activities of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and those of the regional and national organizations concerned, so as to ensure that the United Nations objectives of development, freedom and peace are achieved.

*34th plenary meeting
18 July 1997*

⁵² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 14 (E/1992/34)*, chap. IV.

⁵³ See E/ESCWA/19/5.