

## Chapter IV

### RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

#### **45/1. Regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond**

*The Economic and Social Commission for  
Asia and the Pacific,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 40/100 of 13 December 1985 on the world social situation,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 40/98 of 13 December 1985 on improvement of the role of the United Nations in the field of social development,

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 43/182 of 20 December 1988 on the preparations for an international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade,

*Reaffirming* that the primary responsibility for their development rests with the developing countries themselves and that the commitment of other countries to support their efforts is of vital importance for the achievement of this aim,

*Noting* with great concern the critical social situation in many countries of the region, most clearly characterized by the persistence of mass poverty and widespread deprivation among specific disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in society, such as women, children and youth, elderly persons and the disabled,

*Noting further* with equal concern the increasing use of drugs among youth,

*Recognizing* that the eradication of absolute poverty, pursuit of distributive justice, and enhancement of popular participation should be central issues in all development efforts in the region,

*Reiterating* the importance of the family as the basic social unit for socio-economic development,

*Taking into account* the need to further develop viable strategies for integrating social concerns and the human dimension into overall development policy and planning as a means of improving the quality of life of the people and thereby ensuring social progress and stability in the region,

*Bearing in mind* the recommendations for action to accelerate social development processes in the region adopted by the Third Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, held in October 1985, and the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region adopted by the Commission at its forty-fourth session,

*Taking note* of the importance placed by the Committee on Population and Social Development at

its first session, held in November 1988, on the development of a viable regional social development strategy as a priority activity in the Commission's programme of work,

1. *Commends* the Executive Secretary for having embarked on a project to formulate a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond with the financial assistance of the United Nations Development Programme;

2. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to incorporate the themes of distributive justice, poverty eradication and popular participation in the strategy;

3. *Also urges* the Executive Secretary to incorporate in the strategy careful consideration of the family in development and of the pivotal role of this basic social institution, as well as the problem of drug abuse, *inter alia*, in the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development;

4. *Invites* all members and associate members, as well as concerned United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, to contribute to the development of the strategy through participation in the preparatory activities to be organized by the secretariat;

5. *Decides* to convene the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development at Manila in 1991 to consider and adopt a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the preparatory activities towards a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond to the Commission at its forty-sixth session in 1990 and to submit the regional social development strategy adopted at the Ministerial Conference to the Commission at its forty-eighth session in 1992;

7. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the population-related recommendations of the Ministerial Conference in 1991 to the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in 1992.

*693rd meeting  
5 April 1989*

#### **45/2. Establishment of a depository centre for United Nations human rights materials<sup>2</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for  
Asia and the Pacific,*

<sup>1</sup> See paras. 492-496 above.

<sup>2</sup> See para. 504 above.