

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 materials²

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

¹ See paras. 492-496 above.

² See para. 504 above.

Recalling General Assembly resolution 43/140 of 8 December 1988 on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/73 of 10 March 1988 on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region,

Welcoming the designation, by the Executive Secretary, of the Social Development Division of the secretariat as a regional focal point on human rights,

Requests the Executive Secretary to pursue, within existing resources, the establishment of a depository centre for United Nations human rights materials, the functions of which would include the collection, processing and dissemination of such materials in the ESCAP region.

693rd meeting
5 April 1989

45/3. Regional support for International literacy Year³

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 42/104 of 7 December 1987 proclaiming 1990 as International Literacy Year and recommending that the regional commissions consider at their respective forums the contributions that they could make to the success of the Year,

Recalling Commission resolution 266 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on International Literacy Year,

Recalling also its resolution 274 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region,

Noting the emphasis placed on literacy and basic education as critical components in human resources development, and particularly noting the recommendations contained in the Jakarta Plan of Action regarding literacy and basic education for all,

Welcoming with appreciation the decision of the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Bank to convene the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs, at Bangkok in 1990,

1. Urges all members and associate members to participate actively in the World Conference;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to lend active support and, as far as possible, provide substantive inputs to the World Conference;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on action being taken by members and associate members in implementation of Commission resolution 266 (XLIV).

693rd meeting
5 April 1989

45/4. Integrated programme on rural development⁴

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its earlier resolutions 161 (XXXII) of 31 March 1976 and 172 (XXXIII) of 29 April 1977 in which it expressed grave concern at the problems of rural poverty and called for the promotion of growth with social justice in the region through mutual co-operation between Governments and the United Nations agencies,

Recognizing the serious efforts made by the Governments of the developing countries of the region, the support of the international community and their accomplishments in redressing rural poverty,

Convinced of the need for Governments to continue their efforts to focus on alleviation of rural poverty through the active participation of the beneficiaries themselves in the planning, implementation and evaluation of such activities to ensure the relevance of programmes and equitable sharing of benefits,

Also convinced of the continued need for the international community to supplement the efforts of the developing countries of the region,

Recognizing the need to focus urgent attention on areas such as employment generation, including self-employment opportunities, development of rural women, promotion of people's participation, monitoring and evaluation,

Expressing concern over the continued plight of millions of rural poor in the region, including in particular in the least developed countries, who have not been adequately reached by the fruits of development,

Expressing appreciation of the assistance provided by the United Nations agencies, including in particular the members of the Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific and the Committee itself to the developing countries of the region in the alleviation of rural poverty,

Taking into account the recent review of integrated rural development strategies undertaken by experts designated by a number of developing member Governments at Suwon, Republic of Korea and their reaffirmation of the Interagency Co-ordinated Plan of

³ See paras. 499-502 above.

⁴ See paras. 265-271 above.