

Mindful of the substantial progress achieved by members and associate members in responding to the Asia-Pacific Call for Action on Population and Development adopted by the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference, held at Colombo in 1982, and the role played by the secretariat and donors, particularly the United Nations Population Fund, in its implementation,

Taking note of the importance of the International Conference on Population and Development to be held at Cairo in 1994,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, held in Bali, Indonesia, in August 1992, of the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development, and endorses the recommendations of that Declaration;

2. *Urges* all members and associate members to take early and effective action to implement the Bali Declaration through the provision of adequate financial and human resources;

3. *Also urges* all members, associate members and the Executive Secretary to make every effort to incorporate population, environment and development concerns in their inputs to the forthcoming International Conference on Population and Development;

4. *Calls upon* donor countries and funding agencies, in particular the United Nations Population Fund, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, to provide substantive and financial support for the implementation of the Bali Declaration;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, as head of the main centre within the United Nations system for the general economic and social development of the Asian and Pacific region:

(a) To assist the members and associate members in the implementation of the Bali Declaration by initiating appropriate activities, and to review and appraise their progress;

(b) To cooperate with members and associate members in implementing the Bali Declaration, and, in the light of the declining financial and human resources devoted to the Asian and Pacific regional population programme, to seek to mobilize resources for this purpose;

(c) To continue to play an advocacy role in the planning and implementation of population programmes in the ESCAP region, and even more vigorously in the light of the Bali Declaration;

(d) To disseminate information through regular publications and other appropriate means concerning the implementation of the Bali Declaration and the challenges faced by countries in the region in its implementation;

(e) To report to the Commission at periodic intervals on the progress made;

(f) To organize a meeting of senior planners and policy makers to incorporate concretely the recommendations of the Bali Declaration within the regional document for the International Conference on Population and Development;

6. *Invites* the Executive Secretary, in transmitting the present resolution to the Economic and Social Council, to request that it be brought to the attention of the General Assembly.

750th meeting
29 April 1993

49/5. Regional programme on space applications for development⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Realizing the current global concern regarding natural resources depletion and environmental degradation, as expressed overwhelmingly at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992,

Recognizing that the implementation of Agenda 21 calls for an understanding of the interdependence of environment and development, and the interaction of various components of the Earth environment system,

Agreeing that the advancement of space science and technology, and its applications, have been of immense benefit to natural resources management, environmental monitoring and sustainable development planning,

Convinced that Earth space information technology, particularly remote sensing and related geographic information system technology, owing to its multidisciplinary nature and holistic power to gather and analyse synoptic, dynamic and authentic data, is the most appropriate tool for providing the integrated information required in decision-making for optimum management of natural resources and the environment, and for development planning,

Noting that several countries in the Asian and Pacific region had experienced a significant development of space applications activities in the past decade,

Further noting that there is an increasing demand for Earth space information technology applications for sustainable development in the region,

⁵ See para. 451 above.

Realizing that international cooperation and coordination on space applications, in consultation and collaboration with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other agencies of the United Nations system are essential complements to individual national efforts to enable the different members and associate members of the Commission to share their experience and expertise,

Recalling, inter alia, its resolution 48/1 of 23 April 1992 on the declaration on enhancing regional economic cooperation, by which it urged strongly that promotion of greater cooperation in science and technology and in the development of infrastructure should receive high priority in economic cooperation in Asia and the Pacific and in the Commission's deliberations,

Further recalling its resolution 47/8 of 10 April 1991 on regional cooperation and coordination in remote sensing and geographic information systems, by which it decided to continue to promote and strengthen regional cooperation and collaboration in the area of satellite technology applications for sustainable natural resources development and environmental management,

Reiterating its views expressed at the forty-eighth session of the Commission, held at Beijing in 1992, that to ensure coordinated development of space remote sensing applications in the region and to sustain such activities, a space applications programme should be initiated by the members and associate members of the Commission,

Reaffirming its opinion, expressed also at the forty-eighth session of the Commission, that to initiate a regional space applications programme, a senior officials meeting should be held to explore mechanisms and to make the necessary preparations for a ministerial-level meeting to launch the programme,

Acknowledging the generous offer made by the Government of China to host the ministerial-level meeting together with the senior officials meeting in the second half of 1994,

1. *Urges* the secretariat to continue its efforts to promote the sharing of experience between the members and associate members of the Commission in order to achieve sustainable development, at each country's initiative, through the integration of Earth space information technology applications with the management of natural resources and the environment and with development planning;

2. *Decides* that a ministerial-level meeting on space applications for development will be held at Beijing on 23 and 24 September 1994 to launch a regional space applications programme for development;

3. *Agrees* that a senior officials meeting should be held from 19 to 22 September 1994, immediately before the ministerial-level meeting, under the same host facility arrangements, to complete proposals for a regional space applications programme for development and to submit their recommendations to the ministerial-level meeting for consideration;

4. *Urges* all members and associate members of the Commission to participate actively in the senior officials meeting and the ministerial-level meeting and to cooperate closely in completing the regional space applications programme for development in Asia and the Pacific;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To mobilize resources for preparatory activities leading to the ministerial-level meeting;

(b) To intensify the interdivisional efforts to strengthen the capacity of the secretariat, subject to the availability of budgetary resources, for preparation of the ministerial-level meeting;

(c) To request regional financial institutions, such as the Asian Development Bank, to sponsor jointly the ministerial-level meeting and to cooperate financially in the follow-up of the decisions and recommendations adopted at that meeting;

(d) To request the United Nations Development Programme and the Global Environment Facility to cooperate in the holding of the ministerial-level meeting and in its follow-up in the context of their action plan;

(e) To report to the Commission at its fiftieth session on the progress in the preparations for the ministerial-level meeting.

*750th meeting
29 April 1993*

49/6. Proclamation and Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002⁶

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Noting with concern that people with disabilities are among the poorest and most vulnerable members of most communities in the Asian and Pacific region and that special measures are required to ensure their full participation and equality in society,

Recalling the Manila Declaration on a Social Development Strategy for the ESCAP Region Towards the Year 2000 and Beyond, and Commission resolution 48/5 of 23 April 1992, in which the Commission endorsed the Strategy,

⁶ See paras. 310-321 above.