

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.

Reaffirming the need for priority to be assigned to the region's disadvantaged and vulnerable social groups, including persons with disabilities, as stated in the Social Development Strategy,

Recalling Commission resolution 48/3 of 23 April 1992 on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1992/289 of 31 July 1992,

Recalling also the successful intergovernmental Meeting to Launch the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, held at Beijing from 1 to 5 December 1992, hosted by the Government of China through the China Disabled Persons' Federation, and supported by the Government of Japan,

Noting with appreciation the Proclamation on the Full Participation and Equality of People with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific Region, which was adopted at that Meeting,

Welcoming the signing of the Proclamation by heads of State and Government and senior government officials of a number of ESCAP members and associate members,

Also welcoming the establishment of a trust fund for the Decade, subsequent to the adoption of Commission resolution 48/3, with generous contributions from the Governments of Australia, China, Hong Kong and the Republic of Korea,

1. *Urges* all members and associate members of the Commission to stress their commitment to the full participation and equality of people with disabilities in the Asian and Pacific region by joining as signatories to the Proclamation at the highest levels of government;

2. *Adopts* the Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002;

3. *Requests* all members and associate members to support national implementation of the Agenda for Action through public awareness activities, appropriate policies and other measures, and the allocation of resources;

4. *Invites* all Governments, donor agencies and the private sector to contribute to the trust fund for the Decade to ensure the successful implementation of the Agenda for Action;

5. *Also invites* the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and other concerned United Nations bodies and agencies, in close cooperation with ESCAP, to strengthen their support for the building of national capabilities for effective implementation of the Agenda for Action;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To give special attention, in collaboration with all concerned United Nations bodies and agencies and non-governmental organizations, to the development of regional activities in support of the

implementation of the Agenda for Action for the full participation and equality of people with disabilities in the Asian and Pacific region;

(b) To include an item on the progress in implementing the Agenda for Action, incorporating information on the signatories to the Proclamation, on the agenda for the regional ministerial-level meeting to be convened in 1994 in preparation for the World Summit for Social Development to be held in 1995.

750th meeting
29 April 1993

49/7. Implementation of decisions of the General Assembly on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including Agenda 21, in Asia and the Pacific⁷

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 47/190 of 22 December 1992 on the report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and recalling, in particular, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21 as adopted at that Conference on 14 June 1992,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992 on the institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, requested the Economic and Social Council to set up a Commission on Sustainable Development to follow up the Conference, and noting, in particular, the request of the General Assembly to the regional commissions, contained in paragraph 27 of resolution 47/191, to examine the relevant provisions of chapter 38 of Agenda 21 at their next sessions and submit reports on their specific plans to implement Agenda 21,

Recalling also Commission resolution 47/7 of 10 April 1991 on the integration of environment and development in Asia and the Pacific, in which it endorsed the Regional Strategy on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development and supported the establishment of an inter-agency committee on environment and development,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 47/188 of 22 December 1992 on the establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating committee for the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa,

⁷ See paras. 160-161 above.