

(b) Adoption of a public housing finance system to which low- and middle-income families would have access in order to improve their homes;

(c) Expansion of the scope and coverage of community-based housing finance systems targeted at poor families;

(d) Monitoring at regular intervals of shelter sector performance through the housing indicators programme developed by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the World Bank;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to monitor and review the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Urbanization on a biennial basis.

758th meeting  
13 April 1994

**50/4. Regional preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women, 1995: Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development, 1994<sup>4</sup>**

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

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 48/108 of 20 December 1993 on implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, and other relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolutions 44/77 of 8 December 1989, 46/98 of 16 December 1991 and 47/95 of 16 December 1992,

*Recalling also* Commission resolution 46/6 of 13 June 1990 on the integration of women in all aspects of development, in which the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to convene in 1993 a regional intergovernmental meeting on women in development to review the progress achieved in Asia and the Pacific in implementing the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and as a regional preparatory activity for the fourth world conference on women to be convened by the United Nations in 1995,

*Recognizing with appreciation* all preparatory activities undertaken by the Government of Indonesia for hosting the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development, to be held in Jakarta from 7 to 14 June 1994 and those activities undertaken by the Government of China for hosting the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995,

*Noting* the various recommendations of the Commission regarding the time-frame, provisional agenda and preparatory activities for the Ministerial Conference,

*Considering* the importance of improving the status of women in the family and society and enhancing their participation in development in all sectors and at all levels of activity at national, regional and global levels,

*Also considering* that the Asian and Pacific region is the home of the largest percentage of the world's population and consequently of the world's women, and that it has a rich variety of religions and cultures as well as levels of economic development,

*Reaffirming* the important role of the Commission in coordinating regional activities in the field of women in development and as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the Asian and Pacific region,

*Reiterating* its invitation to all members and associate members to participate in the Ministerial Conference,

1. *Calls upon* members and associate members to undertake the necessary review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and prepare country reports which would serve as input for the regional and global review and appraisal of the Strategies;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to ensure that:

(a) The draft plan of action, the most important basic document for the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development, is concise but comprehensive, identifies critical areas of concern to most countries in the region, lists measurable goals and strategic objectives to be achieved, as well as actions to be taken by Governments, non-governmental organizations, regional and international organizations and institutions;

(b) The preparation of the draft takes fully into account the views and concerns expressed by Governments, as well as the consensus reached on related matters, in the relevant forums of the United Nations and other intergovernmental bodies in the region, and also takes into consideration the views of experts expressed in the Expert Group Meeting on Women in Development held in Bangkok in February 1994, as well as the recommendations of the Asian and Pacific Symposium of Non-governmental Organizations on Women in Development, held in Manila in November 1993;

3. *Urges* members and associate members to ensure that they are represented at the highest levels at both the Meeting of Senior Officials on Women in Development and the Ministerial Conference;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to present the regional action proposals emanating from the Ministerial Conference as the main Asian and Pacific

<sup>4</sup> See para. 347 above.

regional input into the Fourth World Conference on Women;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Fourth World Conference on Women to provide the necessary substantive assistance for the success of the Ministerial Conference as a preparatory meeting for that Conference, and invites her to address the Ministerial Conference;

6. *Urges* donors, members and associate members of the Commission, as well as other funding agencies, to extend their assistance to facilitate the participation in the Ministerial Conference of all the least developed countries, the Central Asian republics in transition to a market economy, and the Pacific island developing countries;

7. *Encourages* all members and associate members of the Commission and organizations of the United Nations system to take part in the Exhibition on the Advancement of Women in the Asia-Pacific Region, which will be held in conjunction with the Ministerial Conference;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution and the results of the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development.

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13 April 1994

## 50/5. Status of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific<sup>5</sup>

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

*Noting* that the Asian Statistical Institute was brought into existence pursuant to chapter I, paragraph 2, of the Plan of Operation concluded on 1 May 1970 between the host Government, namely, the Government of Japan, the United Nations (acting through ESCAP as the executing agency), the United Nations Development Programme as the funding agency, and other participating Governments, on the basis of the Agreement of 9 September 1969 between the Government of Japan and the United Nations Development Programme concerning Assistance for the Establishment and Operation of the Asian Statistical Institute, itself concluded in response to resolutions 64 (XXII) of 31 March 1966 and 75 (XXIII) of 17 April 1967 adopted by the Commission,

*Noting also* that the Institute, since the entry into force of the above Agreement, has been functioning under the Plan of Operation dated 1 May 1970 and subsequent project documents concluded between the host Government, ESCAP as the executing agency, the United Nations Development Programme as the funding agency, and other participating Governments,

*Noting further* that through Commission resolution 175 (XXXIII) of 29 April 1977, the Asian Statistical Institute was renamed the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific in order to reflect the change of designation of the geographical area covered by the Commission,

*Recalling* its resolution 134 (XXIX) of 21 April 1973, strongly recommending that the Institute become a permanent organization and continue to function as a regional institution supported by the United Nations,

*Recalling also* the Commission's request for the continuation of the Institute's activities after its sixth phase ending on 31 March 1995, as well as the Commission's view, expressed at its forty-ninth session, held in Bangkok in April 1993, that the Institute should be constituted on a more permanent basis,

*Noting* the strong institutional and operational links that the Institute has had during the past twenty-four years with the various bodies of the Commission, and with the members and associate members of the Commission, with the result that the Institute operates, in practice, similarly to a subsidiary body of ESCAP servicing the Asian and Pacific region as a whole, and in particular the developing countries,

*Expressing its deep appreciation* to the Government of Japan, other participating Governments and the United Nations Development Programme for their generous and continuing financial assistance to the Institute since its inception in May 1970,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the Institute has been conducting its operations entirely through voluntary contributions of extrabudgetary resources, with administrative and substantive backstopping to the Institute being provided by the ESCAP secretariat,

*Desiring* to provide the Institute with a durable institutional framework by according it such legal status as would allow members and associate members of the Commission to continue to improve, both qualitatively and quantitatively, statistical capabilities and statistical information in the countries of the region,

1. *Recommends* that the Institute should continue its operations as a regional institution and should acquire the legal status of one of the Commission's subsidiary bodies as of 1 April 1995, and that a statute should be considered at the fifty-first session of the Commission;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation, *inter alia*, with the Government of Japan

<sup>5</sup> See para. 466 above.