

Chapter IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FIFTY-SECOND SESSION

52/1. Preparation for the review of the conference structure of the Commission¹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolutions 143 (XXX) of 5 April 1974, 210 (XXXVI) of 29 March 1980, 262 (XLIII) of 30 April 1987 and 47/3 of 10 April 1991 concerning the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling also its resolution 48/2 of 23 April 1992 on restructuring the conference structure of the Commission, in particular its decision "to review the conference structure of the Commission, including its thematic priorities and its subsidiary structure, no later than at the fifty-third session of the Commission",

Recognizing the increased responsibilities of the Commission, which comprises a geographical area with 62 per cent of the world's population and with many developing members and associate members, among which are least developed, landlocked and island developing economies and disadvantaged economies in transition with special needs,

Recognizing also the comparative advantage of the Commission in the exercise of its role as the main general economic and social development centre of the United Nations system for the Asian and Pacific region,

Mindful of the desire of members and associate members of the Commission to maximize the effectiveness of its conference structure,

Mindful also of the desire of the General Assembly for further reform towards a more efficient organization, and of the financial constraints faced by the United Nations,

1. *Acknowledges* the need for a comprehensive and thorough preparation for the review of the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific which is to be undertaken at its fifty-third session and which provides a valuable opportunity to reassess the Commission's orientation of work and output against the needs and priorities of the region while keeping in view the comparative advantage of the Commission;

2. *Welcomes* the preparations initiated by the Executive Secretary to facilitate the comprehensive review by the Commission of its conference structure, including the thematic approach and priorities in relation to the programme of work of the Commission while at the same time keeping in view the resources available to it, including any possibility of new sources of funding;

3. *Requests* the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission to undertake an independent review of the conference structure of the Commission which would take into account the progress made in the preparatory exercise referred to in paragraph 2 above and which would provide the Advisory Committee's own recommendations in this regard;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To consult the Advisory Committee, as appropriate, in undertaking the preparatory exercise referred to in paragraph 2 above;

(b) To convene a regional preparatory meeting in Bangkok by February 1997 to discuss, *inter alia*, the outcome of the secretariat's preparatory exercise and the Advisory Committee's recommendations, in preparation for the review of the conference structure of the Commission, and to submit his report to the Commission at its fifty-third session.

*13th meeting
24 April 1996*

52/2. Shanghai symposium to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of ESCAP²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Noting that the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at Shanghai, China, will fall in 1997,

Acknowledging the impressive contribution of ESCAP, since its founding, to the social and economic development of its members and associate members and the positive role that it has played in fostering economic and social cooperation in the Asian and Pacific region,

¹ See para. 71 above.

² See para. 319 above.

Recognizing the impressive economic and social progress that has been achieved by members and associate members during the last five decades and the vastly expanded opportunities and scope for regionwide development cooperation,

Taking note with appreciation of the generous offer of the Government of China to host a three-day symposium in Shanghai on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of ESCAP,

1. *Decides* to hold a symposium on "Development challenges and opportunities for Asia and the Pacific in the twenty-first century and the role of ESCAP";

2. *Urges* all members and associate members to extend full cooperation in the preparations for and active participation in the symposium to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of ESCAP to ensure its success;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to cooperate closely with the Government of China in the organization of the symposium.

*13th meeting
24 April 1996*

52/3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women³

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Welcoming the successful outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,

Noting that the Platform for Action recommends that regional commissions should promote and assist the pertinent national institutions in monitoring and implementing the global Platform for Action within their mandates and that that should be done in coordination with the implementation of the respective regional platforms or plans of action,

Noting also that the Platform for Action recommends that regional commissions should mainstream women's issues and gender perspectives and should also consider the establishment of mechanisms and processes to ensure the implementation and monitoring of the Platform for Action and the regional platforms and plans of action,

Bearing in mind its resolution 51/7 of 1 May 1995 on the implementation of the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific, in which the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to support the integration of regional inputs, as contained in the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action, into the global platform for action at the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Noting with satisfaction the establishment of the Subcommittee on the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific of the Regional Inter-agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific in response to Commission resolution 51/7,

Cognizant of General Assembly resolution 50/203 of 22 December 1995 on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and other relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Recalling the important role played by regional preparatory conferences in the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women and the plans of action adopted that had served as essential inputs to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and inputs provided to other international conferences by regional preparatory conferences such as the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference in Preparation for the World Summit for Social Development, held in Manila in October 1994,

Reaffirming the crucial role that women play in all areas of economic and social development, including in the alleviation and eradication of poverty, and reiterating that much progress needs to be made to advance the status of women and enhance their participation in the development of the Asian and Pacific region,

Recognizing the important role of women in economic and social development as reflected in recent international conferences, including the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro in 1992, the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna in 1993, the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo in 1994 and the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen in 1995,

1. *Urges* all members and associate members to ensure full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in coordination with the implementation of the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific:

(a) By developing implementation strategies or plans of action for the Platform for Action preferably by the end of 1996, which should be comprehensive, have time-bound targets and

³ See para. 181 above.