

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.

benchmarks for monitoring, and include proposals for allocating or reallocating resources for implementation;

(b) By strengthening national machineries for the advancement of women to enhance their effectiveness in promoting mainstreaming of gender concerns into policy formulation and planning for national development;

(c) By promoting measures to alleviate and eradicate the feminization of poverty which was recognized as a critical area of concern in the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action and in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

(d) By promoting active support and community participation at all levels and of all concerned partners in civil society, including non-governmental organizations;

2. *Urges also* all donor countries, local and national governments, the private sector, funding agencies and regional and international financial institutions to assist developing countries, particularly the least developed, landlocked and island developing economies and the disadvantaged economies in transition, in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To provide support to national efforts, as required, for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in coordination with the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action;

(b) To mainstream women's issues and gender perspectives into the Commission's programme of work and to promote intersectoral collaboration;

(c) To continue to play a coordinating role through the Regional Inter-agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific and its Subcommittee on the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific to ensure inter-agency cooperation and collaboration in the region, and to cooperate with subregional organizations and relevant regional institutions in Asia and the Pacific;

(d) To urge developing countries in the Asian and Pacific region to contribute resources, financial and/or technical expertise within the framework of technical cooperation among developing countries;

(e) To conduct a regional review and follow-up of the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action to be utilized as inputs for the review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fifty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*13th meeting
24 April 1996*

52/4. Promoting human resources development among youth in Asia and the Pacific⁴

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 50/81 of 14 December 1995, in which the Assembly adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond,

Recalling also Commission resolution 50/7 of 13 April 1994, in which the Commission adopted the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, as revised in 1994,

Bearing in mind that youth constitute a substantial portion of the region's population, that their productive skills and constructive social participation will determine the pace and pattern of the region's further progress and that their human resources development therefore requires priority attention,

Expressing appreciation to the Governments of Japan and the Netherlands, as well as to the Christian Conference of Asia, for their financial support of the activities of the Commission to promote human resources development among youth,

Welcoming the offer of the Government of China to host a regional meeting of senior officials in 1996 to consider the means of launching the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond in Asia and the Pacific,

1. *Calls upon* members and associate members to promote human resources development among youth in Asia and the Pacific by integrating the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond into their youth policies, plans and programmes;

2. *Urges* donor Governments and agencies to provide technical and financial resources in support of the regional implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth;

3. *Invites* concerned non-governmental organizations and private enterprises to collaborate with Governments, as well as with the Commission, in promoting human resources development among youth in Asia and the Pacific;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To convene a regional meeting of senior officials in 1996, within available resources, to consider the means of promoting human resources development among youth through the implementation in Asia and the Pacific of the World Programme of Action for Youth;

⁴ See para. 186 above.