

52/6. Promotion of environmentally sound and healthy cities⁶

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 46/2 of 13 June 1990 on urbanization strategies in the ESCAP region — towards environmentally sound and sustainable development and management of urban areas,

Recognizing the importance of the Regional Action Plan on Urbanization adopted by the Ministerial Conference on Urbanization in Asia and the Pacific in November 1993,

Recognizing also the Declaration on Healthy Cities in Asia and the Pacific adopted by the Regional Seminar on the Promotion of Environmentally Sound and Healthy Cities in January 1996,

Deeply concerned over the health of millions of people living in the cities in the Asian and Pacific region who are seriously affected by lack of clean water and shelter, overcrowding, inadequate waste disposal, hazardous working conditions and polluted air,

Mindful of the activities being undertaken by the Commission, in close collaboration with the World Health Organization, the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements, known as CITYNET, the Urban Management Programme for Asia and the Pacific of the United Nations Development Programme, the Municipal Environment Cooperation Programme sponsored by the Commission of the European Communities, and other organizations in the promotion of the "Healthy Cities" concept in the region,

Recognizing the fact that social development will be enhanced by people having healthy living and working environments, which is also the foundation for economic growth,

Recognizing also the importance of the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 14 June 1996, and mindful of the concerns for urban health expressed in the draft global plan of action to be considered at Habitat II,

1. Urges all members and associate members to accord high priority to promoting environmentally sound and healthy cities in their overall socio-economic development and to allocate adequate resources for this purpose;

2. Requests United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and other organizations involved in this area to intensify their efforts towards environmentally sound and healthy cities;

⁶ See para. 154 above.

3. Requests all concerned donor countries, donor agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide financial and technical support for the promotion of environmentally sound and healthy cities in Asia and the Pacific.

13th meeting
24 April 1996

52/7. Transfer of environmentally sound technology⁷

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recognizing that the availability of scientific and technological information and access to and transfer of environmentally sound technology are essential requirements for sustainable development in the Asian and Pacific region,

Recalling chapter 34 of Agenda 21 on the transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation and capacity-building,

Recalling also chapter 38 of Agenda 21 on international institutional arrangements and, in particular, the role of the regional commissions in regional and subregional cooperation and implementation,

Bearing in mind Commission resolution 50/9 of 13 April 1994 on the implementation of the Action Programme for Regional Economic Cooperation in Investment-related Technology Transfer and, in particular, the section in the Action Programme on the promotion of the flow of new and clean technologies,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To prepare an itemized progress report on concrete measures taken by members and associate members with respect to their commitments undertaken pursuant to chapter 34 of Agenda 21;

(b) To prepare and make available to members and associate members, in full collaboration with the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology within the context of its project on the Mechanism for Exchange of Technology Information and other relevant sources, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Cleaner Production Information Clearinghouse and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, an inventory of environmentally sound technologies appropriate to selected industrial sectors in the Asian and Pacific region, which would also include relevant information on the elaboration of the terms under which such transfers could take place;

⁷ See para. 156 above.