

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.

(c) To submit the documents referred to in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above to the Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development at its fifth session, to be held in 1998;

(d) To continue to provide advice to improve the operational modalities for the effective transfer of environmentally sound technology to the developing countries of the Asian and Pacific region;

(e) To promote the development of endogenous technological capacities and requisite technology in the developing countries of the Asian and Pacific region relevant to the objectives of chapter 34 of Agenda 21;

2. *Invites* contributions of financial and technical resources from donor countries, relevant agencies and other possible sources to support the activities in subparagraphs 1 (a) and (b);

3. *Requests* the Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development to review, on a regular basis, the implementation of the present resolution, together with its consideration of the subject of the transfer of environmentally sound technology.

*13th meeting
24 April 1996*

52/8. Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific⁸

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 49/7 of 29 April 1993, in which it requested the Executive Secretary to convene a ministerial-level conference on environment and development in 1995 to discuss the state of environment and development, the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Strategy on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, as well as Agenda 21 and other outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and to provide further guidance on the measures for their implementation,

Noting with satisfaction the successful organization of the third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok in November 1995, which adopted the Ministerial Declaration on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Action Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, 1996-2000,

Convinced that economic development, environmental protection and social development are interdependent and mutually reinforcing elements of sustainable development, which must serve as a framework for improving the quality of life of the people in the Asian and Pacific region,

Recognizing the need for an integrated, multisectoral approach through comprehensive policies and programmes and adequate resources to address the environment and development issues confronting the policy planners and decision makers in the Asian and Pacific region,

Recognizing also the strong interest of members and associate members in the regional and subregional cooperation activities that will follow up the third Ministerial Conference,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations of the third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, including the Ministerial Declaration on Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Action Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, 1996-2000, and calls for their early implementation, including the decision to make efforts for establishing a regional funding mechanism, when necessary;

2. *Requests* all members and associate members to participate actively in the implementation of the recommendations of the third Ministerial Conference;

3. *Urges* all United Nations bodies and agencies concerned, multilateral financial institutions, donor countries and agencies to contribute technical and financial resources to implement the recommendations of the third Ministerial Conference;

4. *Calls upon* the members of the Inter-agency Subcommittee on Environment and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific to play an effective role in the implementation of the Regional Action Programme as coordinators of areas identified by the Subcommittee;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To mobilize both human and financial resources for the implementation of the recommendations of the third Ministerial Conference;

(b) To ensure effective coordination and joint pursuit of the activities of all concerned United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations, in facilitating and monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the third Ministerial Conference;

(c) To include in the agenda of the fourth session of the Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development, to be held in 1997, a mid-

⁸ See para. 137 above.