

on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, General Assembly resolution 51/170 of 16 December 1996 on industrial development cooperation, and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session (1997),

*Noting with satisfaction* the successful organization of the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology at Bangkok in February 1998, which adopted the Bangkok Declaration on Strengthening Regional Cooperation for Industrial and Technological Development in the Asian and Pacific Region and the Regional Action Plan for Industrial and Technological Development,

*Convinced* that industrial and technological development is the principal determinant for promoting the overall economic and social progress of the Asian and Pacific region,

*Recognizing* the need for market-based industrial policies and programmes and adequate financial, human and technical resources to promote and sustain the industrial and technological dynamism of the Asian and Pacific region,

*Recognizing also* the need for strengthened regional cooperation to meet the emerging challenges and to exploit the opportunities in a rapidly globalizing world economy,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology, held at Bangkok from 19 to 24 February 1998, including the Bangkok Declaration on Strengthening Regional Cooperation for Industrial and Technological Development in the Asian and Pacific Region, and the Regional Action Plan for Industrial and Technological Development calling for their early implementation;

2. *Urges* all members, associate members, private sector organizations, non-governmental organizations and other sections of civil society to participate actively in the implementation of the recommendations of the Meeting;

3. *Further urges* all United Nations bodies and agencies concerned, multilateral financial institutions, donor countries and agencies to contribute technical and financial resources to promote the implementation of the recommendations of the Meeting, including the Bangkok Declaration and the Regional Action Plan;

4. *Calls upon* the members of the Subcommittee on Industry and Technology of the Regional Inter-agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific to play an effective role in the implementation of the Regional Action Plan as coordinators of areas identified through discussion in the Subcommittee which fall within their competence;

#### 5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To mobilize human, financial and technical resources for the implementation of the recommendations of the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology, including the Bangkok Declaration and the Regional Action Plan;

(b) To undertake a comprehensive study dealing with the implications of the current economic crisis for the industrial and technological development process of the regional countries and to organize a meeting to deliberate on those issues and findings;

(c) To ensure effective coordination of the activities of all relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, as well as private sector organizations, non-governmental organizations and other sections of civil society, in facilitating and monitoring the implementation of the Bangkok Declaration and the Regional Action Plan;

(d) To include in the agenda of the session of the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation to be held in 2000 a mid-term review and assessment of the progress achieved in the implementation of the recommendations of the Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology, the Bangkok Declaration and the Regional Action Plan, and to report on that review to the Commission at its fifty-seventh session.

*10th meeting  
22 April 1998*

**54/4. Mobilization of human and financial resources for further implementation of actions to achieve the population and development goals of the ESCAP region<sup>4</sup>**

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

*Recalling* the principles and recommendations contained in the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development adopted at the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, held in Bali, Indonesia, in 1992, and in the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994,

*Noting* that approximately 60 per cent of the population of the world and over 65 per cent of its poorest people live in the Asian and Pacific region, and that any future strengthening of population policies and programmes in the region would have a substantial impact on global population trends, sustained socio-economic development and the well-being of the people,

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<sup>4</sup> See para. 194 above.

*Observing* that a large number of countries in the region have made great strides towards implementing the recommendations of the Bali Declaration and the Cairo Programme of Action, and that data on resource flows indicate that they have been meeting their part of the financial commitments,

*Noting with concern* that there is a considerable shortfall in the proportion of the resources expected to be made available by the international community for the implementation of the Bali Declaration and the Cairo Programme of Action,

*Recalling* its resolution 74 (XXIII) of 17 April 1967 on convening the Asian and Pacific Population Conference every ten years,

*Anticipating* the guidance to be provided by the General Assembly at its special session to be convened in 1999 to review progress in the implementation of the Cairo Programme of Action,

1. *Endorses* the report and key future actions of the High-level Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development and to Make Recommendations for Further Action;

2. *Urges* the countries in the Asian and Pacific region to continue making all possible efforts to mobilize adequate domestic resources for the provision of comprehensive health care, reproductive health, including family planning services, and other social development programmes, even though many of these countries are currently facing financial constraints;

3. *Further urges* these countries to make adequate use of the modalities of South-South cooperation with a view to ensuring optimum use of the human and financial resources already available within the region;

4. *Calls upon* the international community, including international organizations, bilateral agencies, foundations, non-governmental organizations and the rest of civil society to increase support substantially to meet the urgent and pressing needs of the Asian and Pacific region in population and development, and to provide additional resources, as a temporary measure, to the social sector, including resources for poverty alleviation in those countries which are facing a major economic crisis;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system:

(a) To support the efforts of the Fund towards ensuring the availability of resources to achieve the internationally agreed goals of both the Bali Declaration and the Cairo Programme of Action;

(b) To take appropriate steps to reorient the Asian and Pacific regional programme on population and sustainable development in accordance with the key future actions recommended by the High-level Meeting, with a view to providing assistance to developing countries and areas in the region, paying special attention to least developed countries, in response to the challenges that they face and to the need to strengthen national capacity to implement these key future actions in an effective and coordinated manner;

(c) To report on the implementation of the present resolution at the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, which is planned for the year 2002.

*10th meeting  
22 April 1998*

#### **54/5. International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages<sup>5</sup>**

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

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 47/5 of 16 October 1992, the annex to which contains the Proclamation on Ageing, in which the General Assembly decided to observe the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons and urged the international community, *inter alia*, to promote intraregional and interregional cooperation and exchange of resources for programmes and projects on ageing, including those for lifelong healthy ageing, income generation and new forms of productive ageing,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 50/141 of 21 December 1995 on the International Year of Older Persons, in which the General Assembly invited the regional commissions, within the existing mandates, to bear in mind the goals of the Year when convening regional meetings in 1998 and 1999 at which to mark the Year and formulate action plans on ageing for the twenty-first century,

*Bearing in mind* General Assembly resolution 49/162 of 23 December 1994 on the integration of older women in development,

*Recalling* Commission resolution 51/4 of 1 May 1995 endorsing the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region, in which, *inter alia*, the Commission called for measures to bring the active elderly into the economic and social mainstream and to meet the basic needs of rural and urban elderly who lack social security,

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<sup>5</sup> See para. 207 above.