

5. *Encourages* donor governments and agencies, regional and international financial institutions, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to assist countries in the Greater Mekong Subregion in their capacity-building to enable them to integrate effectively into the regional and global economy;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To help to mobilize the necessary resources to provide technical assistance and assistance in other areas that may be deemed necessary, upon the request of various Greater Mekong Subregion development frameworks, particularly in such key sectors as human resources development, trade and investment, transport and communications, poverty alleviation and social development;

(b) To call necessary meetings among the parties concerned to design a work programme for the development of the Greater Mekong Subregion with the aim of achieving a tangible result in the given period;

7. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to monitor the overall programmes of various framework activities in order to report to the Commission at its annual sessions and to all concerned member countries, and to evaluate the implementation of the programmes every three years until the end of the Decade.

10th meeting
7 June 2000

56/2. Advancing human resources development in Asia and the Pacific²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/196 of 18 December 1997 on developing human resources for development, in which, inter alia, the Assembly emphasized the need for international cooperation to advance human resources development and the need for concerted efforts to support the efforts of developing countries to develop their human resources,

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

Recalling further Commission resolution 51/2 of 1 May 1995 on strengthening regional cooperation in human resources development in Asia and the Pacific, by which the Commission welcomed the proposals for action for regional cooperation in human resources development, as reviewed by the Panel of Eminent Persons on Human Resources Development and presented in the secretariat theme study,

Emphasizing the importance of human resources development as a sustainable national strategy for promoting economic and social development and alleviating poverty, as well as for integrating developing countries and those with economies in transition into the international economic system,

Recognizing the need to accelerate the development of human resources in marginalized population groups as a means of enhancing educational, health and employment status,

Recognizing also the need to strengthen the capacity of the public sector in the planning and delivery of human resources development programmes and services, particularly for the poor and other disadvantaged groups,

Acknowledging the successful implementation by the secretariat of phases I, II and III of the Jakarta Plan of Action, and the high level of support extended to the secretariat in that initiative by other concerned United Nations bodies and specialized agencies,

Acknowledging also the strong financial support of various donor governments and non-governmental organizations to the secretariat's human resources development programme,

1. *Calls upon* regional members and associate members:

(a) To reaffirm their commitment to the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, as revised in 1994;

(b) To strengthen their national policies to advance human resources development, focusing on investments in all areas of human resources development, including education and training, health and nutrition, and promoting sustainable livelihoods to empower people to become self-reliant and self-supporting within a facilitating environment;

(c) To review existing human resources strategies with a view to developing new approaches that could respond more effectively to the challenges and opportunities of globalization, as well as the emergence of a knowledge-based and information-based society;

(d) To consider gender mainstreaming as an approach to promoting gender equality in human

² See paragraph 227 above.

resources development, with a view to correcting and bridging the present significant gap between men and women in access to opportunities and resources;

2. *Encourages* donor governments and agencies, regional and international financial institutions, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to assist developing countries to develop their human resources and to build and strengthen the national capacity to enable them to function effectively in a globalizing world;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to provide member and associate member governments with support in the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action, as revised in 1994, giving priority attention to those in most need;

(b) To promote national capacity-building of developing countries, giving priority attention to those countries and subregions in most need, through the provision of training and advisory services for national personnel working in key areas, such as poverty alleviation, formal and non-formal education, community empowerment, population, health and social services, youth and women in development, entrepreneurship and skills development, trade and investment promotion, industrial and technological development, environment and natural resources management, administration and management, and information technology, including Internet access;

(c) To target the rural and urban poor, women, youth and children in especially difficult circumstances and people with disabilities as beneficiaries of the secretariat's human resources development activities;

(d) To promote the sharing of best practices and experiences in human resources development policies and programmes among countries in the region, through such means as the organization of regional and subregional forums, intercountry exchange via the ESCAP Network of Centres of Excellence for Human Resources Development Research and Training, the administration of the annual ESCAP Human Resources Development Award, and research and information dissemination via both the print and the electronic media, including the ESCAP web site;

(e) To accord priority to the implementation of phase IV (2001 to 2005) of the Jakarta Plan of Action, the focus of which should be to build a stronger foundation in the region in the areas of education, health and sustainable livelihoods to meet the challenges and opportunities of globalization and the emergence of a knowledge-based and information-based society;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to seek extrabudgetary resources, where appropriate, to provide technical assistance and other means of support for developing countries, giving priority attention to those countries and subregions in most need, in their efforts to advance human resources development;

5. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*10th meeting
7 June 2000*

56/3. Regional cooperation on space applications for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific³

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 51/11 of 1 May 1995 on regional cooperation on space applications for environment and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, by which the Commission endorsed the recommendations of the first Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in Beijing in September 1994, and the Beijing Declaration on Space Technology Applications for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 51/123 of 13 December 1996 on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, in which, inter alia, the Assembly emphasized the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustainable development,

Recalling further the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held in Vienna in July 1999,

Recalling the decision of the Commission at its fifty-fifth session in April 1999 to hold the Second Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific in New Delhi in November 1999,

Noting with satisfaction the success of the Second Ministerial Conference, which adopted the Delhi Declaration on Space Technology Applications in Asia and the Pacific for Improved Quality of Life in the New Millennium and the Strategy and Action Plan on Space Technology Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific for the New Millennium, and which launched phase II of the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development,

³ See paragraph 171 above.