

(d) To strengthen and harness the multidisciplinary potential of the secretariat to ensure full support for the effective implementation of the present resolution, and to facilitate effective coordination with the United Nations information and communication technologies task force;

(e) To initiate the establishment of strategic alliances at the regional level to include relevant United Nations bodies, regional organizations, such as the Asian Development Bank, the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity and the Asian Institute of Technology, and private sector organizations and funding agencies, to promote information and communication technologies in the region in a coordinated and synergistic manner;

(f) To prepare a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution for submission to the Commission at its fifty-ninth session in 2003;

2. *Calls upon* all concerned donor countries and funding agencies, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to provide support for the implementation of the resolution;

3. *Urges* all members and associate members to fully cooperate with, and provide substantive and other support to, ESCAP in the implementation of the resolution;

4. *Also urges* regional organizations, such as the Asian Development Bank and the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, and the private sector, to support and participate effectively in the implementation of the resolution.

*5th meeting  
25 April 2001*

**57/5. Integration of Asian and Pacific developing countries and economies in transition into the international trading system<sup>5</sup>**

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

*Recalling* the discussion on the theme topic of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission, "Development through globalization and partnership in the twenty-first century: an Asia-Pacific perspective for integrating developing countries and economies in transition into the international trading system on a fair and equitable basis",

*Recalling also* the initiative of the Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as Chairperson of its fifty-sixth session, to hold the Meeting of Eminent Persons ("Friends of the Chair") on the Integration of Asian Developing Countries into the International Trading System, in Tehran on 10 and 11 March 2001,

*Noting with interest* the report of the Meeting,

*Expressing* its appreciation to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the Meeting,

*Considering* that globalization is an evolving process accelerated by technological developments and liberalization in trade and investment regimes,

*Recognizing* that globalization presents opportunities, challenges and risks and that there is a need to manage globalization so as to ensure the full participation of all countries and the universal enjoyment of its benefits, thereby minimizing its associated risks, including the possible continuing exclusion and marginalization of developing countries,

*Stressing* the importance of creating among all countries a sense of ownership and partnership in shaping the future of the international trading system, through dialogue,

*Acknowledging* the desirability of integrating developing countries and economies in transition into the international trading system in order to ensure human-centred development,

*Mindful* of the contribution of regional and subregional organizations in preparing for more effective integration of developing countries into the international trading system,

1. *Reaffirms* the call for a fair, transparent and rule-based international trading system;

2. *Underlines* the importance of forging partnerships and alliances between all development actors, in particular between the private and public sectors, in increasing the benefits of globalization and liberalization and managing their risks;

3. *Notes* that facilitating the integration of developing countries and economies in transition into the international trading system is an important area of its work;

4. *Notes further with appreciation* the memorandum of understanding between the World Trade Organization and ESCAP establishing a joint training programme;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to further assist developing countries and economies in transition in their attempts at national capacity-building for the negotiation and implementation of multilateral trade agreements by:

<sup>5</sup> See paragraph 155 above.

(a) Promoting policy advocacy and sharing country experiences so as to enhance understanding of the World Trade Organization issues that are of concern to developing countries and economies in transition;

(b) Providing advisory services to developing countries and economies in transition on trade policy reviews;

(c) Providing a comprehensive training programme, under the framework of the World Trade Organization/ESCAP joint programme of training, to enhance the negotiating capacity of government officials and to promote greater understanding of the World Trade Organization agreements;

(d) Providing specialized training, in collaboration with the World Trade Organization and other international organizations, and ad hoc advisory services to facilitate the accession of developing countries and economies in transition to the World Trade Organization.

*5th meeting  
25 April 2001*

**57/6. Implementation of the Sustainable Energy Development Action Programme, Strategies and Implementation Modalities for the Asian and Pacific Region, 2001-2005 in support of the Bali Declaration on Asia-Pacific Perspectives on Energy and Sustainable Development<sup>6</sup>**

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

*Recalling* the decision made at its fifty-sixth session to hold a high-level regional meeting on energy for sustainable development and the need to move towards sustainable patterns of production, distribution and use of energy, as stressed in the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session held in 1997, and the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/60 of 30 July 1999 on preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

*Recalling further* Commission resolution 56/4 of 7 June 2000 on the promotion of a sustainable energy future for small island states,

*Recalling* the mission statement and programme areas as contained in the Regional Action Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, 2001-2005 adopted by the Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, 2000, held in Kitakyushu, Japan, from 31 August to 5 September 2000,

*Convinced* that energy is a crucial input to economic and social development, and that energy development and use in all its social, economic and environmental dimensions will also contribute to poverty alleviation,

*Acknowledging* that an increase in demand for energy is inescapable in view of the high economic growth prospects in the countries of the Asian and Pacific region, but that the increase has to be met by a choice of fuels and technologies which would keep the negative environmental impact to the minimum possible level,

*Acknowledging further* the need to enhance the capacity of concerned stakeholders in developing sustainable energy development strategies under which energy services can be expanded and improved with a minimum compromise on environmental quality,

*Noting with satisfaction* the successful outcome of the High-level Regional Meeting on Energy for Sustainable Development held in Bali, Indonesia, from 21 to 24 November 2000, which adopted the Bali Declaration on Asia-Pacific Perspectives on Energy and Sustainable Development, and the Sustainable Energy Development Action Programme, Strategies and Implementation Modalities for the Asian and Pacific Region, 2001-2005 (hereinafter referred to as the Sustainable Energy Development Action Programme),

*Noting* that the Sustainable Energy Development Action Programme identified several areas for action, as follows:

(a) Developing policies to promote energy utilization for poverty alleviation by ensuring energy availability at affordable prices;

(b) Strengthening planning capacity on sustainable energy development by establishing clear linkages to other sectors;

(c) Promoting the implementation of a supply-side and demand-side energy efficiency programme in the region;

(d) Promoting the application of renewable and clean energy technologies in the region;

(e) Promoting and assisting a dedicated global project to create 100 per cent renewable energy in the small island developing states of the region;

(f) Mobilizing financial resources from traditional sources and the private sector,

*Noting further* that the Bali Declaration and the Sustainable Energy Development Action Programme stress that international cooperation is necessary to support regional efforts in enhancing national capacity, mobilizing national resources and facilitating technology transfer,

<sup>6</sup> See paragraph 202 above.