

Amendments

22. Amendments to the present statute shall be adopted by the Commission.

Matters not covered by the present statute

23. In the event of any procedural matter arising that is not covered by the present statute or rules of procedure adopted by the Governing Council under paragraph 11 of this statute, the pertinent part of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific shall apply.

Entry into force

24. The present statute shall enter into force on the date of its adoption by the Commission.

61/7. Regional cooperation for the protection of vulnerable people through the promotion of economic and social aspects of human security as a follow-up to the Shanghai Declaration⁷

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 60/1 of 28 April 2004, by which it adopted the Shanghai Declaration, and in particular paragraph 17 (g) thereof regarding the promotion of human security in the region through greater regional cooperation, especially for vulnerable people,

Noting that not all members and associate members have agreed on a definition of the term “economic and social aspects of human security”,

Noting also that concepts relating to economic and social aspects of human security are being applied in the context of international development assistance, inter alia, in community-building and human development, especially for vulnerable groups,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to seek means to support the secretariat’s technical cooperation work in the area of community-building and human development to protect and enhance the capabilities of vulnerable people, inter alia, through the use of available United Nations trust funds and other extrabudgetary contributions, as appropriate;

2. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to it at its sixty-second session on measures to support regional cooperation for the protection of vulnerable people through the promotion of economic and social aspects of human security as a follow-up to the Shanghai Declaration.

*5th meeting
18 May 2005*

61/8. Mid-point review of the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific⁸

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 59/3 of 4 September 2003 on the regional implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific during the Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, by which it requested all members and associate members to support the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework at the national level and through international cooperation and partnership,

Noting that a mid-point review of the Biwako Millennium Framework should be conducted in 2007, on the basis of which the current targets and strategic plans may be modified, in order to formulate an updated set of targets and strategies for the second half of the Decade, 2008-2012,

Noting also that the ESCAP Regional Workshop on Monitoring the Implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework was held in October 2004,

Noting further the progress made at the international level in the process towards an international convention on the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities through the organization of five sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, established by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/168 of 19 December 2001,

Noting with appreciation the contributions by Governments in the ESCAP region to the development of support for the consideration and elaboration of an international convention on the rights of persons with disabilities,

Observing that the Asian and Pacific Decades of Disabled Persons have influenced developments at the international level and have been replicated by the African Decade of Disabled Persons (2000-2009) and the Arab Decade of Disabled Persons (2003-2012),

Welcoming Papua New Guinea and Turkey as the forty-fourth and forty-fifth signatories of the Proclamation on the Full Participation and Equality of People with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific Region, in December 2003, and Timor-Leste as the forty-sixth signatory of the Proclamation, in January 2004,

⁷ See paragraphs 182-221 above.

⁸ See paragraphs 196-200 and 221 above.

Noting the series of joint activities with the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability, as an ESCAP partner, in ensuring the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework,

Noting with appreciation the continuous contributions by Governments in the region to the technical assistance trust fund for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons,

1. *Calls upon* members and associate members to renew their commitment to the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific in advance of the mid-point review;

2. *Encourages* all members and associate members to further strengthen their efforts to achieve the priorities, targets and strategies of the Biwako Millennium Framework with particular emphasis on the following actions, to be taken in advance of the mid-point review:

(a) Consideration of holistic and comprehensive approaches to policies and programmes that are disability-inclusive and responsive;

(b) Support for capacity-building in respect of persons with disabilities and their organizations;

(c) The mainstreaming of disability into overall national development plans, programmes and projects for poverty alleviation;

(d) The promotion of community approaches as an important component of empowerment and an effective poverty alleviation strategy;

(e) The promotion of disability-inclusive international and regional cooperation;

3. *Calls upon* members and associate members to continue to support and contribute to the ongoing work of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, with a view to further promoting equal rights for persons with disabilities and protecting those rights;

4. *Invites* Governments in the region and other stakeholders to continue contributing to the ESCAP technical assistance trust fund for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, in order to ensure the achievement of the goals of the Biwako Millennium Framework at the regional level;

5. *Invites* Governments in the region that have not yet done so to consider signing the Proclamation on the Full Participation and Equality of People with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific Region;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To provide Governments in the region with technical support for the continued monitoring of

the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework in advance of the mid-point review in 2007;

(b) To hold in 2007, within existing resources, a high-level intergovernmental meeting of three working days' duration on the mid-point review of the Decade;

(c) To support the inclusion of disability in the regional preparations for the first five-year review of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and related outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits;

(d) To further strengthen the partnership between ESCAP and the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability in order to promote the empowerment of persons with disabilities;

(e) To report to the Commission at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

5th meeting
18 May 2005

61/9. Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific⁹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Noting with satisfaction the successful organization of the fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, 2005, held in Seoul from 24 to 29 March 2005, which adopted the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, 2005, the Regional Implementation Plan for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, 2006-2010, and the Seoul Initiative on Environmentally Sustainable Economic Growth (Green Growth),

Recognizing that reducing poverty is one of the greatest challenges facing Asia and the Pacific and that sustained economic growth is essential not only for poverty reduction but also for sustainable development, particularly in the developing countries,

Realizing that increasing stress on the carrying capacity of the region resulting from unsustainable economic growth can be alleviated through the integration of economic development, social development and environmental protection, the three mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Considering that, in the interest of present and future generations, there is a need to shift the development orientation from a "Grow now and clean up later" approach to an environmentally sustainable or Green Growth approach,

⁹ See paragraphs 172-175 above.