

Further recalling its resolution 60/1 of 28 April 2004 on the Shanghai Declaration, in which the special needs of small island developing States were recognized, as was the need to enhance subregional and regional integration and cooperation to support their development,

Recognizing that the United Nations Millennium Declaration articulated important goals and specific, measurable and time-bound targets related to poverty reduction, education, health and safe drinking water, and recognizing further their relevance to small island developing States,

Recognizing also that the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States set forth specific actions and measures to be taken at the national, regional and international levels in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States, in such areas as biodiversity, climate change, and coastal and marine resource management,

Reaffirming the desire of small island developing States to participate effectively in and benefit from the Commission's activities as a whole,

Bearing in mind that assistance to small island developing States will need to take into account their unique economic and social situations resulting from their isolation, small size and vulnerability to environmental hazards,

Welcoming the strengthening of the Least Developed Countries Coordinating Unit at ESCAP,

1. *Reaffirms* its support for the issues identified by the Mauritius Strategy for follow-up action in order to further implement the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

2. *Stresses* that the successful implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States depends on shared responsibility and strengthened partnerships, including with civil society and the private sector, and invites all members and, as appropriate, associate members and subregional, regional and international organizations to support the efforts of small island developing States to address issues of national and regional sustainable development, which includes economic, social and environmental aspects;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, within existing regular budget resources, or through voluntary contributions, as available:

(a) To ensure that the activities of ESCAP, consistent with its programme of work, take into account the special needs of the small island developing States, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy;

(b) To review, analyse and disseminate information, as appropriate, on economic and social

development in small island developing States, in line with the Mauritius Strategy;

(c) To provide regional inputs, as appropriate, into the final review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy;

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

*5th meeting
12 April 2006*

62/10. Strengthening statistical capacity in Asia and the Pacific¹¹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000 on the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005 on the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which strongly reiterated the determination of Member States to ensure the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including those agreed at the Millennium Summit that are described as the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling further the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, as adopted in 1994 by the United Nations Statistical Commission,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/13 of 22 July 2005 on the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme, in which the Council recognized the increasing importance of the 2010 round of population and housing censuses for meeting data needs for the follow-up activities to the Millennium Summit,

Recognizing the need to strengthen the capacity of many of the developing countries of the region to produce on a regular basis a minimum set of statistical data needed for monitoring social, economic and environmental conditions and designing and evaluating evidence-based policies,

Recognizing the difficulties that many developing countries face in implementing some of the major long-standing international statistical standards,

Encouraged by the capacity-building and other initiatives that are taking place at the national and international levels, in response to relevant international plans and programmes,

1. *Invites* members and, as appropriate, associate members to give priority to the strengthening of their official statistical systems;

¹¹ See paragraphs 164 to 168 above.

2. *Encourages* members and, as appropriate, associate members and relevant international organizations and institutions with advanced statistical systems to share expertise and information on their methodological, technological and managerial practices in statistical offices for the benefit of other countries in the region;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, within existing regular budget resources, or through voluntary contributions, as available:

(a) To assist members and, as appropriate, associate members to develop their statistical systems, strengthening their capacity to collect, compile, process, analyse, disseminate and use official statistics;

(b) To provide assistance to members and, as appropriate, associate members in strengthening their capacity to monitor progress towards development goals and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

(c) To facilitate the development and implementation of international statistical standards in the region;

(d) To facilitate regional discussion and the sharing of information and good practices related to official statistics;

(e) To facilitate the coordination of international capacity-building activities related to the development of official statistics in the region, including cooperation among national statistical offices of developing countries;

(f) To facilitate the dissemination and use of data, including by providing a user-friendly platform to access socio-economic and environmental indicators in an internationally comparable format;

(g) To coordinate with regional and international agencies in the collection of official statistical data from members and, as appropriate, associate members in order to avoid duplication of effort and to minimize the response burden on national statistical systems;

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

*5th meeting
12 April 2006*

62/11. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010¹²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration and, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals, which are aimed, inter alia, at the eradication of poverty,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 55/279 of 12 July 2001, in which the Assembly endorsed the Brussels Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which, inter alia, reaffirmed the commitment to address the special needs of the least developed countries and urged all countries and all relevant organizations of the United Nations system to make concerted efforts and adopt speedy measures for meeting in a timely manner the goals and targets of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 60/228 of 23 December 2005, in which the Assembly called for the convening of a high-level meeting on the mid-term comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, and its related preparatory meetings,

Recalling Commission resolution 59/4 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, in which it expressed its strong support for the full realization of the seven commitments made at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the Programme of Action, as well as the recommendations emanating from the international conferences on the landlocked developing countries and small island developing States,

Welcoming the enhanced focus on least developed countries by the international community since the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

1. *Reaffirms* its commitment to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 so that the least developed countries of Asia and the Pacific will be able to attain internationally agreed development goals;

2. *Recognizes* the need for coherent results-based national development strategies aimed at poverty reduction, as envisaged in the Programme of Action, and effective implementation of policies leading to economic growth and sustainable development;

3. *Emphasizes* the need for appropriate strategies and greater political will by the least developed countries as well as continued commitment by their development partners, including international financial institutions, to address emerging challenges;

4. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Regional Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed

¹² See paragraphs 248 to 260 above.