

“Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCAP region” and requests the Executive Secretary to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

5th meeting
12 April 2006

62/2. Jakarta Declaration on enhancing regional cooperation in infrastructure development, including that related to disaster management²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Expressing deep appreciation to the Government and citizens of Indonesia for hosting the present session in Jakarta,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 55/2 of 8 September 2000 on the United Nations Millennium Declaration and 60/1 of 16 September 2005 on the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which calls for timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals, and recalling also the Monterrey Consensus,

Recalling also the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, which was adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005,

Recognizing that infrastructure is a key element for realizing sustained economic growth and sustainable development to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing also the need to undertake infrastructure development that provides high economic and social benefits and improves the quality of life of people, particularly the poor, and those in rural and remote areas,

Recognizing further the region's high vulnerability to natural disasters that can hamper progress in infrastructure development and poverty reduction,

Welcoming the increased emphasis of the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank on infrastructure critical to growth, and their increased efforts to catalyse private-sector investment and public-private partnerships,

Recalling the deliberations of the Commission at its sixty-first session, held in Bangkok in May 2005, which focused on financing for development, and underscoring the need to follow up its outcomes through strengthened and concrete regional cooperation on

infrastructure development, including that related to disaster management,

Recalling also the Jakarta Declaration on Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: The Way Forward 2015, which calls for the promotion of affordable and environmentally sustainable infrastructure that targets the needs of the poor,

Recalling further the Bali Ministerial Joint Statement on Infrastructure Development in the Asia-Pacific Region, adopted at the Ministers' Forum on Infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific Region, held in Bali, Indonesia, in October 2003,

Recognizing the need for a particular focus on the development of infrastructure in areas affected by natural disasters,

Welcoming resolution XXIII-12 of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 16 April 2005, establishing the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System, and the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System,

Underlining the strategic role of infrastructure development for improving interconnectedness and cooperation between and within countries and promoting democratic processes and empowerment,

Recognizing that diverse geographic and demographic conditions, different stages of development and existing gaps in infrastructure development within and between countries in the region pose serious challenges for some countries in achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing also the importance of greater infrastructure development in Asia and the Pacific and acknowledging the crucial role that sound economic, regulatory and good governance policies at all levels can play in fostering the positive investment climate necessary to mobilize public and private resources for financing this development,

Recognizing further that cooperation and mobilization of resources at national, regional and international levels can play a critical role in infrastructure development,

1. Invites members and, as appropriate, associate members:

(a) To formulate and implement policies for infrastructure development aimed at improving the quality of life, that take into account the need to provide high economic and social benefit to poor people and people living in rural and remote areas;

(b) To endeavour to enhance the efficiency and quality of infrastructure facilities and services;

(c) To implement good public and corporate governance principles throughout the process of infrastructure development, through, inter alia, the provision of conducive and transparent legal

² See paragraphs 94 to 123 above.

frameworks for private sector involvement, and the establishment and use of appropriate systems of public procurement, based on transparency, competition and objective and predetermined criteria in decision-making that are effective in preventing corruption, without prejudice to the positions of members on these issues in other forums;

(d) To create an enabling environment for the promotion of public-private partnerships at the national and regional levels, for active and constructive participation of the private sector in infrastructure, and for the enhanced active participation of all relevant stakeholders in infrastructure development;

(e) To develop infrastructure development policies and strategies, taking into account safety and environmental concerns as well as geographic characteristics;

(f) To promote national and regional efforts to increase and sustain public and private resources for infrastructure development based on sustainable development principles;

(g) To strengthen national and regional preparedness in disaster risk management and response capability through education, training and the sharing of expertise, information and best practices, including through the United Nations "White Helmets Initiative";

(h) To strengthen regional cooperation on infrastructure development by improving the effectiveness of existing regional and subregional initiatives in this field;

(i) To examine and promote the use of microfinance for infrastructure development;

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

(a) To promote appropriate instruments and modalities for enhancing regional cooperation in infrastructure development through, inter alia, capacity-building, technical cooperation activities and the promotion of the interoperability, interconnectedness and intermodality components of infrastructure development, including maritime infrastructure, as appropriate;

(b) To forge closer cooperation with United Nations bodies, development agencies and multilateral financing institutions, as well as donors, as appropriate within their respective mandates, to strengthen global partnerships for infrastructure development, including that related to disaster risk management, reconstruction and rehabilitation;

(c) To assist members and, as appropriate, associate members with developing policy responses to promote renewable and environmentally friendly energy sources, energy efficiency and related infrastructure;

(d) To continue efforts to ascertain the views of the member States to identify and address the investment needs and priorities of members, and, as appropriate, of associate members, in infrastructure development, including that which contributes towards the integration of regional infrastructure;

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

*5th meeting
12 April 2006*

62/3. Implementation of the Plan of Action for Sustainable Tourism Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase II (2006-2012) and the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Tourism Development³

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Welcoming the successful outcome of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on Sustainable Tourism Development, held in Bali, Indonesia, in December 2005, which adopted the Bali Declaration on Sustainable Tourism Development and the Plan of Action for Sustainable Tourism Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase II (2006-2012) including its Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Tourism Development (2006-2012),

Stressing the enormous potential of sustainable tourism for socio-economic development and poverty eradication, including as a main source of foreign exchange earnings and employment generation in both urban and rural areas across the region,

Noting that the international community is attaching special importance to tourism as reflected in a number of global initiatives, including the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, 2002, the Brussels Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, the Global Code of Ethics on Tourism adopted at the thirteenth session of the General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization, and the Yogyakarta Declaration on Cultural Tourism, Local Communities and Poverty Alleviation of 9 February 2006 adopted at the World Tourism Organization International Conference on Cultural Tourism and Local Communities, held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, from 8 to 10 February 2006,

Emphasizing that tourism, based on the principle of sustainable development, is an important means to manage environmental and cultural concerns effectively while contributing to economic growth and promoting social development,

³ See paragraphs 200 to 203 above.