

- Capacity-building for national statistical offices in the ESCAP region to produce, disseminate and analyse data in accordance with internationally agreed standards and good practices

Annex III

Terms of reference of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

The Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission shall have the following functions:

- (a) To maintain close cooperation and consultation between the members and the secretariat of the Commission;
- (b) To advise and assist the Executive Secretary in drawing up proposals for the strategic framework and programme of work, consistent with the guidance provided by the Commission;
- (c) To receive on a regular basis information on the administrative and financial functioning of the Commission, and to assist and advise the Executive Secretary in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Commission's programme of work;
- (d) To review the draft calendar of meetings prior to its submission to the Commission at its annual session;
- (e) To advise the Executive Secretary on the provisional agenda for sessions of the Commission and committees subsidiary to the Commission, bearing in mind the need to ensure a results-oriented and focused agenda that is aligned with the development priorities of member States, as well as chapter II of its rules of procedure;
- (f) To advise the Executive Secretary on the identification of emerging economic and social issues and other relevant issues for incorporation into the provisional agendas of the Commission sessions;
- (g) To assist the secretariat in the formulation of the annotated provisional agenda for each session of the Commission before it is finalized;
- (h) To carry out any other tasks to be entrusted to it by the Commission.

Resolution 64/2

Regional cooperation in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters in Asia and the Pacific³⁰

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

³⁰ See paras. 113 to 121 above.

Recognizing the significant role of natural disaster management in achieving sustainable development and poverty reduction,

Recognizing also that there is now a clear understanding that the Millennium Development Goals cannot be achieved without due consideration of disaster risk and that sustainable development cannot be achieved unless disaster risk reduction is mainstreamed into development policies, planning and implementation,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001 and 57/256 of 20 December 2002 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking into due consideration General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002 on strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance, in which the Assembly, inter alia, encouraged the strengthening of cooperation among States at the regional and subregional levels in the field of disaster preparedness and response,

Recalling further the Hyogo Declaration³¹ and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,³² adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005, which emphasized the need for strengthening and, when necessary, developing coordinated regional approaches and creating or upgrading regional policies, operational mechanisms, plans and communication systems, where appropriate, in order to prepare for and ensure rapid and effective disaster response in situations that exceed national capacities to cope with such situations,

Recalling the inclusion of a thematic cluster on "disaster management and vulnerability" in the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the cycle 2014/2015,³³

Recognizing the urgent need to further develop and make effective use of scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need to facilitate the access of developing countries to technology in order to improve their ability to tackle natural disasters,

³¹ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

³² Ibid., resolution 2.

³³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9 (E/2003/29)*, chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, annex.

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters in the Asian and Pacific region, and the increasing impact of such disasters in recent years, which have resulted in a massive loss of life and long-term social, economic and environmental impacts on vulnerable societies, in particular on developing countries,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,³⁴

Recognizing that disaster risk reduction is a cross-cutting issue of great complexity, requiring understanding, knowledge, commitment and action, which should be addressed with the active participation of all stakeholders,

Recognizing also that continued cooperation and coordination among Governments, the entities of the United Nations system, other regional and international organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners are essential in order to address the impact of natural disasters effectively, while emphasizing the need to avoid any potential duplication between the work of international organizations and other entities involved in the area of disaster information management within the Asian and Pacific region,

Recognizing further the importance of linking disaster risk management with the policies, plans and programmes of regional frameworks, as appropriate, in order to address issues of poverty reduction and sustainable development,

Noting the provisions of Beijing Action for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia, adopted at the first Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Beijing from 27 to 29 September 2005, which, inter alia, stated that additional opportunities to facilitate its implementation and the monitoring of its accomplishments could be realized through collaboration, as applicable, with ESCAP as a regional mechanism,

Noting also the provisions of the Delhi Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia, adopted by the second Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in New Delhi on 7 and 8 November 2007, which reaffirmed that the biennial Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which had started in Beijing in 2005, would be expanded as the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, with the participation of national Governments, regional and subregional organizations, United Nations agencies, international financial institutions and other stakeholders, including civil society organizations, scientific and technical organizations, the private sector and the media,

Noting further that the Government of Malaysia has expressed its willingness to host the third Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction in

Kuala Lumpur in December 2008 in order to promote more effective participation of countries and international organizations in the region in preparation for the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, which is to be held in 2009,

1. *Urges* the countries of the region and international and regional organizations to implement the Delhi Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia, adopted at the second Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in New Delhi on 7 and 8 November 2007;

2. *Encourages* countries in the Asian and Pacific region to host the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction once every two years on a rotational basis;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to strengthen the role and capacity of ESCAP in the area of disaster risk reduction;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to take effective measures:

(a) To facilitate, in cooperation with relevant United Nations entities, the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters³² in the region and the recommendations of the first and second Asian ministerial conferences on disaster risk reduction, within the framework of the programme of work of ESCAP;

(b) To work closely with the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, in particular the regional office for Asia and the Pacific, in supporting the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action in the region, including the organization of the biennial Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction;

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

*Fifth plenary meeting
30 April 2008*

Resolution 64/3

Promoting renewables for energy security and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific³⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development³⁶ and General Assembly resolution 62/197 on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy,

³⁴ A/61/229 and Corr.1.

³⁵ See paras. 113 to 122 above. See also paras. 266 to 287.

³⁶ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum).