

*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,<sup>34</sup>

*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 Disasters<sup>32</sup> 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 Pacific<sup>35</sup>**

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

*Recalling* the report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development<sup>36</sup> and General Assembly resolution 62/197 on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy,

<sup>34</sup> A/61/229 and Corr.1.

<sup>35</sup> See paras. 113 to 122 above. See also paras. 266 to 287.

<sup>36</sup> *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).

*Taking* note of the theme topic for the sixty-fourth session of the Commission, entitled “energy security and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific”,

*Acknowledging* various global initiatives to promote the visibility and deployment of renewables, including the International Conference for Renewable Energies, Bonn (2004), the Beijing International Renewable Energy Conference (2005) and the Washington International Renewable Energy Conference (2008),

*Noting* the offer of the Government of India to host the next International Renewable Energy Conference in early 2010,

*Recognizing* that energy is a key driver of economic and social development and that countries in the region have a sovereign right to choose an energy mix that is in line with their national priorities,

*Mindful* of the challenge presented by the unmet energy demand in many of the member countries in terms of the access, affordability and availability of energy,

*Realizing* the potential of various new and renewable energy technologies, i.e., solar, wind, biomass/biofuels, small hydro, geothermal, hydrogen and fuel cells for urban, industrial and rural applications through either grid-interactive or decentralized distributed generation options, with the added advantage of lower carbon footprints,

*Recognizing* that modalities for cooperation in the area of renewable energy technologies would be on a mutually agreed upon basis,

1. *Calls upon* all members and associate members, as appropriate:

(a) To cooperate proactively in the development of various renewable energy technologies through the sharing of policy and technological experiences;

(b) To encourage and participate actively in subregional, regional and intraregional initiatives in the areas of capacity-building, renewable energy demonstration projects and public-private partnerships so as to promote renewable energy technologies by improving their reliability through technical advances and their affordability by making them commercially viable;

(c) To closely involve developing countries in the development of new and renewable energy technologies, products and services that would eventually make their deployment cost-competitive;

(d) To encourage the rapid dissemination of existing new and renewable energy technologies to developing countries;

(e) To make their research institutions accessible to researchers and technologists from developing countries;

(f) To proactively facilitate, by working with intellectual property rights holders, the transfer of new and renewable energy technologies to developing countries by considering, on a voluntary basis, the reduction of technical and licensing costs;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To coordinate with the multilateral funding agencies with a view to enhancing financial and technology flows for the development and deployment of new and renewable energy technologies in developing countries;

(b) To facilitate synergies with regional groupings, such as the Economic Cooperation Organization, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Asia Cooperation Dialogue, the Eurasian Economic Community, the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, to promote the development of renewable energy technologies proactively by establishing links with the Commission;

(c) To establish an institutional cooperation mechanism with the active engagement of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology and expert research institutions in the region so as to draw up a programme of cooperation by identifying activities on development, demonstration and capacity-building pertaining to various renewable energy technologies;

(d) To increase participation in public-private partnerships and initiatives that are designed to expand the use of renewable technologies through innovative policy options and practical measures, such as the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership, the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, the International Biofuels Forum and the Global Bioenergy Partnership;

(e) To submit to the Commission at its sixty-seventh session a report on the progress made in implementing the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
30 April 2008*

#### **Resolution 64/4**

#### **Implementation of the Seoul Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific<sup>37</sup>**

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

*Recognizing* the increasing impact of globalization and the substantial growth in output, trade and investment being experienced by many countries in the Asian and Pacific region,

<sup>37</sup> See paras. 100 to 111 above.