

(b) To mainstream the perspective of persons with disabilities in development initiatives, including in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

(c) To review the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action and Biwako Plus Five on a regular basis in preparation for the high-level intergovernmental meeting to be held in 2012;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To assist members and associate members in building their capacity to implement the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action and Biwako Plus Five in order to ensure that a rights-based approach to disability is incorporated into their policies and programmes;

(b) To promote coordination and collaboration among United Nations agencies and regional organizations in order to support member States in implementing the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action and Biwako Plus Five, and in incorporating the perspective of persons with disabilities in actions aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals and also, as appropriate, to assist States in becoming parties to and in implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;⁵⁵

(c) To improve the accessibility of the facilities and services of ESCAP for persons with disabilities, in collaboration with United Nations agencies and organizations and disabled persons' organizations;

(d) To continue strengthening the partnership between ESCAP and the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability;

(e) To convene a high-level intergovernmental meeting to review the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action and Biwako Plus Five in 2012, the concluding year of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012;

(f) To submit to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session, including to the relevant committee, a report on the progress achieved in implementing the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting
30 April 2008*

Resolution 64/9

Midpoint review of the implementation of the Plan of Action on Population and Poverty adopted at the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference⁵⁷

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

⁵⁷ See paras. 131 to 155 above.

Recalling that 2007 marked the fifth anniversary of the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, held in Bangkok in 2002, and of the adoption of its Plan of Action on Population and Poverty,⁵⁸

Noting that 2009 will mark the fifteenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994, and of the adoption of its Programme of Action,⁵⁹

Noting also that the Committee on Emerging Social Issues, at its third and fourth sessions,⁶⁰ requested that the secretariat convene, preferably in 2008, a midpoint review of the implementation of the Plan of Action on Population and Poverty,

Reaffirming the centrality of the United Nations Millennium Declaration⁶¹ and the internationally agreed development goals,

Bearing in mind the goals and objectives related to population and development set at other major United Nations conferences and summits, including at their reviews,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁶² including the commitment to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action,⁶³

Taking note also of the status report⁶⁴ on implementing the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development in Asia and the Pacific, which provided a regional perspective on the progress made towards achieving the goals of the Programme of Action,

Taking note further of the decision of the Commission on Population and Development that the special theme of its forty-second session, to be held in 2009, will be "The contribution of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to the internationally agreed

⁵⁸ E/ESCAP/1271, annex I.

⁵⁹ *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁶⁰ See E/ESCAP/63/6 and E/ESCAP/64/13.

⁶¹ See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

⁶² See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

⁶³ *Review and Appraisal of the Progress Made in Achieving the Goals and Objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, The 2004 Report* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.04.XIII.8).

⁶⁴ *Implementing the ICPD Agenda: 10 Years into the Asia-Pacific Experience, A Status Report* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.04.II.F.46).

development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals”,⁶⁵

Recognizing the importance of understanding the interrelationships between population, development and poverty among national planners and policymakers and of building the capacity of government officials to integrate population issues into development planning in ways that reduce poverty, promote gender equality and empower women in attaining the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting that many countries in the Asian and Pacific region have witnessed a rapid decline in fertility and an increase in longevity, which have had far-reaching and profound effects on the age structure of the population, including population ageing, labour force shortages, increased old-age dependency ratios and high proportions of women among the elderly,

Noting also that, as a result of globalization and economic disparities, the mobility of people in the Asian and Pacific region has grown internally and internationally, impacting social and economic development in both countries of origin and destination,

Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To assist members and associate members in building their capacity to integrate population factors into development planning;

(b) To conduct analytical studies, compile and disseminate relevant demographic and population-related information and data with a view to identifying key demographic trends and emerging issues in the Asian and Pacific region;

(c) To convene an expert group meeting in 2008 to review the implementation of the Plan of Action on Population and Poverty⁵⁸ adopted at the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference;

(d) To submit a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its sixty-fifth session and a final report to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session.

*Fifth plenary meeting
30 April 2008*

Resolution 64/10

Review of the operational details of the feasibility study for the establishment of an Asian and Pacific centre for information, communications and space technology-enabled disaster management⁶⁶

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

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

Recalling the Hyogo Declaration⁶⁷ and the Hyogo Framework for Action,⁶⁸ 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 to prepare for and ensure rapid and effective disaster response in situations that exceed national coping capacities,

Recalling also the Declaration of Principles and the Geneva Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society,⁶⁹ which, inter alia, called for creating and promoting regional cooperation in the field of capacity-building by the United Nations and its specialized agencies and fostering effective international and regional cooperation among Governments, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders, including international financial institutions,

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 for developing countries to have access to technology so as to tackle natural disasters,

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

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

Recognizing also the importance of linking disaster risk management to regional frameworks, as appropriate, in order to address issues of poverty reduction and sustainable development,

Noting the offer made by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host an Asian and Pacific centre for information, communications and space technology-enabled disaster management,

⁶⁵ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 5 (E/2007/25), chap. I, sect. B, decision 2007/1.

⁶⁶ See paras. 124 to 129 above.

⁶⁷ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

⁶⁸ Ibid., resolution 2.

⁶⁹ See A/C.2/59/3, annex.