

concerted strategy and close coordination among countries of the Asia-Pacific region and the relevant development agencies, with a view to promoting cooperation among the countries of Central Asia in enhancing economic and social development, and the need to strengthen the capacity of the countries of Central Asia as a means of helping to narrow the wide development gap between countries in the region,

Noting with appreciation the contribution made by the secretariat to various development programmes in the Asia-Pacific region, including Central Asia, and the high-level support extended to the secretariat in that endeavour by other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies,

Reaffirming its commitment to the development programmes in Central Asia through existing bodies and programmes, including the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, which is jointly supported by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Europe,

Welcoming the outcomes of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on the New ESCAP Subregional Offices for East and North-East Asia, North and Central Asia, and South and South-West Asia,⁸⁹ which was held in Bangkok from 2 to 4 March 2010,

1. *Encourages* donor Governments and agencies, regional and international financial institutions, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to strengthen cooperation with and assist countries in the Central Asian subregion with their development programmes to enable them to integrate effectively into the regional and global economies;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly to endorse the present resolution and to encourage, at the global level, support for its implementation;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To implement the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries;⁹⁰

(b) To assist landlocked countries and transit countries in promoting reciprocal arrangements for transit transport;

(c) To strengthen and support the

implementation of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia;

(d) To help mobilize the necessary resources with which to provide technical assistance, upon the request of member States, particularly in such key sectors as transport and trade facilitation, management of water and energy resources, protection of the environment and climate change adaptation;

(e) To take necessary measures to increase the relevance and effectiveness of the role and activities of the Commission in Central Asia;

(f) To strengthen the role and capacity of the Subregional Office for North and Central Asia as an important mechanism for subregional cooperation and the coordination of international projects;

(g) To ensure that the priority areas identified by the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on the New ESCAP Subregional Offices for East and North-East Asia, North and Central Asia, and South and South-West Asia are fully supported through the proposed programme budget of the secretariat for the biennium 2012-2013 and that adequate resources are provided for that purpose;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting
19 May 2010*

Resolution 66/14

Continuation of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development⁹¹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 61/6 of 18 May 2005 on the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development, in which the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to submit a report to serve as the basis for a comprehensive review by the Commission at its sixty-sixth session with a view to determining whether the Centre should continue to operate thereafter,

Recalling also the Tunis Commitment, adopted on 18 November 2005 at the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society,⁹² which reiterated the significant role of information and communications technology in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and underscored the critical importance of human

⁸⁹ See E/ESCAP/66/16, chap. I.

⁹⁰ *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.*

⁹¹ See paras. 162 to 167 above.

⁹² See A/60/687.

and institutional capacity-building for moving towards a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society,

Recognizing the strong demand for the services of the Centre expressed by member States,

Noting with appreciation that the Centre has been conducting its operations through voluntary financial and in kind contributions made by member States and, in particular, by the Government of the Republic of Korea,

Taking note of the recommendation made by the Governing Council of the Centre at its fourth session, held in 2009, that the operations of the Centre continue beyond 2011,⁹³

Taking note also of the report on the evaluation of the Centre submitted to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session⁹⁴ commending the successful performance of the Centre and recommending the continuation of its operations,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of the Republic of Korea for its offer to continue to provide financial support to the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development and to serve as its host country;

2. *Decides* that the Centre should continue to operate beyond 2011 as a subsidiary body of the Commission, based on the Statute of the Centre, to strengthen the human and institutional capacities of members and associate members in the use of information and communications technology to support inclusive and sustainable economic and social development;

3. *Calls upon* all members and associate members, and encourages relevant bodies within the United Nations and other international organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, as appropriate:

(a) To support the efforts of the Centre aimed at strengthening subregional and regional cooperation in information and communications technology capacity-building through the sharing of information, experiences, knowledge and resources;

(b) To actively seek opportunities for collaboration with the Centre in the effort to strengthen

human and institutional capacities in the use of information and communications technology for sustainable socio-economic development in the Asia-Pacific region, including information and communications technology applications for e-government, e-commerce and community e-centres;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take all steps necessary for the implementation of the present resolution and to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session.

*Fifth plenary meeting
19 May 2010*

Resolution 66/15

Strengthening of the evaluation function of the secretariat of the Commission⁹⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Taking note of the report on evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2008-2009⁹⁶ and the reports on the evaluations of its regional institutions,⁹⁷

Mindful that evaluation is a significant way to strengthen the accountability of the secretariat vis-à-vis members and associate members by providing evidence-based information on the performance and relevance of the activities and strategic operations of the secretariat, which are meant to assist countries in achieving development results,

1. *Commends* the Executive Secretary for her commitment to continuing to strengthen the evaluation function of the secretariat;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To ensure that the secretariat's programmatic work, including the work of divisions, subregional offices and regional institutions, is evaluated periodically;

(b) To submit to the Commission at its sixty-seventh session a plan for the above-mentioned evaluations.

*Fifth plenary meeting
19 May 2010*

⁹⁵ See paras. 162 to 167 above.

⁹⁶ E/ESCAP/66/17 and Corr.1.

⁹⁷ E/ESCAP/66/18 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/66/19 and Add.1, and E/ESCAP/64/28 and Corr.1.

⁹³ See E/ESCAP/66/13, annex III, para. 2.

⁹⁴ E/ESCAP/66/18.