

(d) To support the implementation of the Astana “Green Bridge” Initiative and its proposed programme for partnership between Europe and Asia and the Pacific, through various activities, including participation in meetings and conferences organized by the Government of Kazakhstan and the Economic Commission for Europe;

(e) To encourage strongly effective coordination and joint pursuit of the regional activities of the relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies in facilitating the implementation of the recommendations of the Ministerial Conference;

(f) To report on the progress made in the execution of the Regional Implementation Plan based on information provided by members and associate members, on a voluntary basis, to the 2013 session of the Committee on Environment and Development, and to the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, in 2015;

(g) To convene the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific in 2015.

*Fifth plenary meeting
25 May 2011*

Resolution 67/4

Establishment of the Asian and Pacific centre for the development of disaster information management⁵⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Expressing deep concern at the increasing number and expanding scale of disasters triggered by natural hazards in recent years and their social, economic and environmental impacts on vulnerable people and societies, especially in developing countries,

Recalling the outcome of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2005⁵⁶ and the adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters⁵⁷ and its strategic goals and priorities for action as well as recommendations, which include establishing or strengthening existing specialized regional collaborative centres, as appropriate, to undertake research, training, education and capacity-building in the field of disaster risk reduction,⁵⁸

Recalling also its resolution 63/10 of 23 May 2007 on the review of modalities for regional cooperation in natural disaster management, in particular the establishment of an Asian and Pacific centre for information, communication and space technology-enabled disaster management, in which, among other things, it recognized the significant role of natural disaster management in achieving sustainable development and poverty reduction and acknowledged the importance of natural disaster information management,

Recalling further paragraph 1 of its resolution 66/8 of 19 May 2010 on the review of the proposal for the establishment of the Asian and Pacific centre for information, communication and space technology-enabled disaster management in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in which it noted with appreciation the generous offer of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the proposed centre, and

⁵⁵ See paras. 165 to 182 above.

⁵⁶ See A/CONF.206/6, chap. I, and Corr.1.

⁵⁷ Ibid., resolution 2.

⁵⁸ Ibid., para. 31 (d).

invited the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to provide the Commission with the supplementary information requested in paragraph 1 of resolution 64/10 and to consider revising its draft resolution to take into account the outcome of the review requested in paragraph 1 of resolution 64/10, in consultation with the secretariat, for submission to the Commission for consideration at its sixty-seventh session,

Recognizing the demand for disaster information services in the Asian and Pacific region reflected in several Commission resolutions and reports published by the secretariat, including the *Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2010*,⁵⁹ as well as the request of the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction at its first session that, among other things, the secretariat continue promoting regional cooperative mechanisms and knowledge-sharing arrangements for disaster risk reduction, including on information, communications and space technologies, to improve different aspects of disaster risk management, such as multi-hazard assessment, preparedness, early warning and response to disaster risks,⁶⁰

Recognizing also the importance of regional and subregional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific for enhancing preventive and responsive measures against disasters, in particular in the subregions with higher levels of disaster risk and lower levels of capacity in collaborative mechanisms on disaster risk reduction and management,

Recognizing further the importance of institutional and technical capacity development in disaster information management in the countries and organizations of the region towards achieving the objectives and expected results of disaster risk reduction and management more effectively,

Noting with appreciation the outcome of the efforts made by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to further develop the proposal for the establishment of the centre and for making the necessary adjustments according to resolution 66/8 in consultation and coordination with the secretariat,⁶¹

Expressing deep appreciation to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for its generous offer to support the establishment of the Asian and Pacific centre for the development of disaster information management as a regional facility serving the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in the related areas, and to bear the costs of establishing as well as operating the centre and its programmes for five years, up to US\$ 50 million,

Noting that the main objective of the centre would be to reduce losses and damage resulting from natural hazards by developing the capacities and capabilities of the countries and organizations of the region and strengthening regional cooperation on information sharing and management for disaster risk reduction, and that the Centre would commence its functions and programmes with a focus on the more vulnerable subregions of Asia and the Pacific,

1. *Decides* to initiate the process for the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (the Centre) in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in line with the procedures described in paragraph 5;

⁵⁹ Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, *Protecting Development Gains: Asia Pacific Disaster Report 2010*. Available from www.unescap.org/idd/pubs/Asia-Pacific-Disaster-Report%20-2010.pdf.

⁶⁰ See E/ESCAP/65/9, para. 3.

⁶¹ E/ESCAP/67/21.

2. *Invites* all members and associate members to participate actively in the process of developing the programmes of the Centre and to support its activities, as appropriate, in a comprehensive manner;

3. *Encourages* the United Nations and other international and regional organizations and agencies as well as non-governmental agencies to support actively the process for the establishment of the Centre;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to support the process for the establishment of the Centre, including, inter alia, the development of the required modalities and arrangements for its operationalization through:

(a) Enhanced engagement under ESCAP subprogramme 5, Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction, with the more vulnerable countries and subregions in the areas of disaster risk reduction and disaster information management;

(b) Enhanced engagement under the ESCAP subregional offices in the areas of disaster risk reduction and disaster information management;

(c) Cooperation with United Nations entities, in particular with the Asia Pacific Office of the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and with other international, regional and non-governmental entities;

(d) Inclusion of the details of the activities under paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) above in the secretariat's annual reporting to the Commission;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to include in the secretariat's evaluation plan for 2013 an evaluation of the activities under paragraph 4 and the need for, and benefit of, establishing the Centre as a subsidiary body of the Commission for the development of disaster information management, and to submit the results of that evaluation to the Commission at its seventieth session.

*Fifth plenary meeting
25 May 2011*

Resolution 67/5

Full and effective implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in the Asia-Pacific region⁶²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002 on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing, in which the Assembly endorsed the Political Declaration⁶³ and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,⁶⁴

Also recalling General Assembly resolution 65/182 of 21 December 2010 on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing, in which the Assembly encouraged all Member States to further implement the Madrid Plan of Action as an integral part of their national development plans and poverty eradication strategies, and recommended an expanded role for the regional commissions on ageing issues,

⁶² See paras. 184 to 209 above.

⁶³ *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), annex I.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.*, annex II.