

Mindful of the need to share good practices with regard to enhancing accessibility in the region as well as in the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note of* the report of the Committee on Social Development on its second session;⁶⁹

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue and strengthen, as appropriate, her efforts to improve accessibility for persons with disabilities at ESCAP, which may encompass the following:

(a) To develop and implement further measures, in consultation with United Nations Headquarters, to enhance the accessibility of the secretariat's physical environment, information and communications systems, and other facilities and services, and support the development of assistive technologies for persons with disabilities, taking into account, as appropriate, the principles and relevant articles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

(b) To work with United Nations Headquarters to establish an inter-agency advisory group comprising concerned United Nations entities, and conduct an open dialogue with key stakeholders, including organizations of persons with disabilities from Asia and the Pacific, to review the accessibility of facilities and services in the United Nations complex in Bangkok and to make recommendations for their further improvement to the Executive Secretary;

(c) To establish a mechanism within the secretariat to promote the full inclusion and rights of persons with disabilities to work, on an equal basis with others, bearing in mind United Nations system-wide policies and the principles and relevant articles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

(d) To integrate the perspective of persons with disabilities into the secretariat's work, including its activities relating to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific;

(e) To promote greater knowledge and awareness among secretariat staff of the rights of persons with disabilities, including through, exploring with United Nations Headquarters, the provision of disability-sensitive training for staff at large;

(f) To continue the progressive implementation, in consultation with United Nations Headquarters, of standards and guidelines for the accessibility of facilities and services of the United Nations;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting
25 May 2011*

Resolution 67/7
Role of cooperatives in social development in Asia and the Pacific⁷⁰

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 64/136 of 18 December 2009, in which the Assembly proclaimed the year 2012 the International Year of Cooperatives,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 65/184 of 21 December 2010 on cooperatives in social development, in which the Assembly invited Member

⁶⁹ E/ESCAP/67/11.

⁷⁰ See paras 184 to 209 above.

States to consider taking action towards establishing national mechanisms, such as national committees, to prepare for, observe and follow up on the International Year of Cooperatives,

Recognizing the growing role and important contribution of cooperatives in alleviating poverty, reducing unemployment, improving the livelihood of people and promoting economic and social development in the Asia-Pacific region,

Emphasizing the importance of developing and enhancing cooperatives for countries in the Asia-Pacific region to achieve the development goals set by major United Nations and other world conferences, including the Millennium Summit,⁷¹

Reaffirming the need for further action at the regional level to raise public awareness of the activities of cooperatives with a view to creating an enabling environment for their growth and sustainability,

Welcoming the holding of the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Cooperatives in Social Development: beyond 2012, in Ulaanbaatar, from 3 to 6 May 2011, prior to the official launch of the International Year of Cooperatives,

1. *Invites* all members and associate members to consider taking action towards establishing national mechanisms, such as national committees, to prepare for, observe and follow up on the International Year of Cooperatives, in particular for the purpose of planning, stimulating and harmonizing the activities of the governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations concerned with the preparations for and observance of the Year;

2. *Encourages* governments to take appropriate policy measures to create and promote a supportive and enabling environment for the development and enhancement of cooperatives through close partnership with the cooperative movement, better legislation, wider advocacy of the role and contribution of cooperatives to the socio-economic development of their countries, and awareness-raising activities;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To assist members and associate members, upon request, in preparing for and observing the International Year of Cooperatives;

(b) To facilitate the sharing of experiences and good practices of cooperatives at the regional level;

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

*Fifth plenary meeting
25 May 2011*

Resolution 67/8
Strengthening social protection systems in Asia and the Pacific⁷²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010 on keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, in which Heads of State and Government committed themselves to, among other things, promoting comprehensive systems of social protection that provide universal

⁷¹ See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

⁷² See paras. 184 to 209 and paras. 359 to 383 above.