

Noting the joint statement issued by the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders and the Secretary-General at the forty-second Pacific Islands Forum, in Auckland, New Zealand, on 7 and 8 September 2011,⁵³

Welcoming the support provided by the secretariat of the Commission, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme and the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific to Pacific small island developing States in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

1. *Reaffirms* the special case and the unique and particular vulnerabilities of Pacific small island developing States for sustainable development;

2. *Invites* members and associate members, as appropriate:

(a) To recognize the importance of the oceans and the sustainable development of ocean resources to Pacific small island developing States, including the need for the conservation and sustainable management of the Pacific Ocean and coastal environments for the benefit of small island developing States and as a global resource;

(b) To support efforts for the sustainable management, conservation and use of ocean resources;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, international financial institutions, other organizations and bilateral donors:

(a) To continue to support capacity development and capacity supplementation for Pacific small island developing States to pursue sustainable development and to increase their resilience, including in response to the challenges of climate change;

(b) To improve access to finance so that Pacific small island developing States can transform their economies towards sustainable development and climate resilience;

(c) To promote and support voluntary technology transfer as a contribution to the sustainable development of Pacific small island developing States;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its seventieth session.

*Fifth plenary meeting
23 May 2012*

Resolution 68/2

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 in the Asia-Pacific region⁵⁴

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 63/227 of 19 December 2008 on the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, in which it, inter alia, decided to convene, as

⁵³ Joint Statement of the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Annex 3 of the Forum Communiqué of the forty-second Pacific Islands Forum, Auckland, New Zealand, 7-8 September 2011 (Available from www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2011/joint-statement-of-pacific-islands-forum-leaders-un-secretary-general.html).

⁵⁴ See paras. 41 to 60 above.

called for in paragraph 114 of the Programme of Action,⁵⁵ the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in 2011,

Also recalling its resolution 64/6 of 30 April 2008 on achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCAP region, in which it, inter alia, requested the Executive Secretary to assist countries in the region in achieving the Goals, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and Pacific island developing countries,

Expressing concern at the slow pace of progress in the least developed countries in closing these development gaps,

Reaffirming that the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (the Istanbul Programme of Action),⁵⁶ which was adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, has as an overarching goal to overcome the structural challenges faced by the least developed countries in order to eradicate poverty, sustain inclusive growth and improve the quality of life,

Emphasizing the need for continued international support and mobilizing technical and financial resources to achieve internationally agreed development goals to enable graduation from least developed country status in the stipulated time,

Noting the need to further intensify the engagement of the international community in the attainment of the goals and targets agreed in the Istanbul Programme of Action, including the mobilization of additional international support measures and action in favour of the least developed countries and the formation of a renewed partnership between these countries and their development partners,

Noting with appreciation the convening, from 14 to 16 December 2011 in Bangkok, of the Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting on the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, which adopted a Regional Road Map⁵⁷ containing a set of capacity development activities and identifying the key agencies and entities that could be involved in delivering these activities,

1. *Urges* the countries of the region and international and regional organizations to accelerate the implementation, as appropriate, of the recommendations contained in the Istanbul Programme of Action⁵⁶ and the Regional Road Map for Implementing the Istanbul Programme of Action in the Asian and Pacific Region from 2011 to 2020⁵⁷ in particular;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To assist the Asia-Pacific least developed countries in implementing the Regional Road Map;

(b) To continue to assist Asia-Pacific least developed countries in achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

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

*Fifth plenary meeting
23 May 2012*

⁵⁵ A/CONF.191/13, chap. II.

⁵⁶ *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.II.A.1), chap. II.

⁵⁷ See E/ESCAP/68/23.