

Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/78 of 27 July 1984 on the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/75 of 26 July 1991, in which the Council urged all appropriate international organizations, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to contribute effectively to the formulation and implementation of a regional action programme for the second half of the Decade, and General Assembly decision 46/453 of 20 December 1991, in which the Assembly endorsed Council resolution 1991/75,

Reaffirming the importance of phase II (1992-1996) of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific,

Noting that it may not be possible to implement the regional action programme effectively and efficiently without adequate funds, and noting the decision of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme in this regard,

1. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to keep under review the level of funding to be provided for the implementation of the regional action programme, so that phase II (1992-1996) of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific will have a greater impact;

2. *Requests* bilateral donors to take note of General Assembly decision 46/453, so as to ensure that the programme approved by the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Transport and Communications held at Bangkok from 3 to 5 June 1992 will be implemented effectively;

3. *Invites* all Governments in a position to do so to contribute to the implementation of the programme approved by the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Transport and Communications;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*86th plenary meeting
21 December 1993*

48/178. Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/181 of 20 December 1988, in which it adopted the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 and designated the Commission on Human Settlements as the United Nations intergovernmental body responsible for coordinating, evaluating and monitoring the Strategy,

Recalling also its resolution 47/180 of 22 December 1992 on the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), in which it affirmed that a mid-term review of the implementation of the Global Strategy should be conducted at the Conference,

Noting with satisfaction the recognition of the renewed commitment to the Global Strategy expressed in Agenda 21,⁷

adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Bearing in mind the high potential of enabling shelter strategies, which rely on labour-intensive and locally based technologies, to generate employment, demand for local products and savings, and thereby promote economic development and poverty reduction,

Bearing in mind also that enabling strategies typically include activities, such as institutional reform, revision of building codes and regulations and steps aimed at facilitating the access of the poor to critical resources, especially land and finance, which can best be implemented through partnership arrangements among the public, private and community sectors and the empowerment of the poor and of women,

Convinced that the concept of enabling strategies synthesizes the lessons learned in the development of living conditions since Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held at Vancouver from 31 May to 11 June 1976, and that broad commitment to the implementation of such strategies represents the only viable way of reversing the trend towards deterioration of those conditions,

Recognizing that, since the adoption of the Global Strategy, additional weight has been given to and further insights have been reached into several essential aspects of enabling shelter strategies, such as the requirement for sensitivity to gender considerations, and their potential for contributing to environmentally sustainable development,

Aware that adequate information plays a pivotal role in the proper analysis of the outcome, opportunities and constraints of current housing processes, and in assessing the impact of policies, strategies and programmes thereon,

Having considered the third report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000,⁴⁵

Noting with satisfaction that a number of Governments have initiated or reformulated their national shelter strategies based on the principle of enabling all actors in the shelter sector, that many other Governments have initiated action on particular components of a national shelter strategy and, furthermore, that a number of Governments have commenced a process for applying selected indicators for monitoring the progress and efficiency of their national shelter strategies,

Noting also with satisfaction the support given to the implementation of the Global Strategy by donor Governments, international bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Cognizant of the importance of maintaining the momentum already generated at the national and international levels for the implementation of the Global Strategy,

1. *Commends* Governments that are already revising, consolidating, formulating or implementing their national shelter strategies based on the enabling principles of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000;

2. *Urges* all Governments to adopt and/or strengthen integrated national shelter strategies based on the enabling approach and principles of social, economic and environmental

sustainability, and to review them regularly with a view to ensuring the improvement of living conditions, particularly of the rural and urban poor, women and the homeless;

3. *Recommends* that all Governments adopt a cost-effective system for monitoring the progress of their national shelter strategy and, when assessing the performance of the shelter sector, also adopt, as far as is feasible, taking into account local conditions and sensitivity to gender considerations, guidelines for monitoring national shelter strategies and the application of shelter sector performance indicators, and publicize the guidelines within their countries, particularly on World Habitat Day, and also submit them to the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), in order to enable him to prepare the reports on the implementation of the Global Strategy for consideration by the Commission on Human Settlements;

4. *Urges* Governments to integrate fully the environmental dimension in the formulation and implementation of national shelter strategies, taking into account the relevant components of Agenda 21;

5. *Invites* Governments to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in order to facilitate the implementation and monitoring of the Global Strategy;

6. *Urges* the international community to strengthen its support for national efforts to formulate and implement enabling shelter strategies in developing countries, as recommended in Agenda 21;

7. *Urges* the organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, and other multilateral and bilateral agencies to provide, on the basis of an approach consistent with the Global Strategy, increased financial and other support to Governments for the implementation of the Global Strategy Plan of Action for 1994-1995;⁴⁶

8. *Adopts* the Global Strategy Plan of Action for 1994-1995, and urges all Governments, relevant United Nations and private sector organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to prepare and implement their specific plans of action.

86th plenary meeting
21 December 1993

48/179. Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development,⁴⁷ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, which the General Assembly endorsed in its resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979 and subsequently reaffirmed in its resolution 44/14 A of 26 October 1989,

Recalling the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,² the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United

Nations Development Decade,³ the Cartagena Commitment,⁶ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, the recommendations and decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, particularly those contained in Agenda 21,⁷ General Assembly resolution 46/165 of 19 December 1991, and other resolutions and decisions adopted by the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerning science and technology for development,

Recognizing, in the context of relevant measures to restructure the Secretariat and of General Assembly resolution 47/212 of 23 December 1992, the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in this respect,

Bearing in mind the vital contribution of science and technology, including new and emerging technologies, to the reactivation of economic growth and development of the developing countries and their efforts to achieve the objectives set forth by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Reaffirming that capacity-building in science and technology for development in the developing countries should remain one of the priority issues on the agenda of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that the United Nations should play a central role in the enhancement of support and assistance to the developing countries in their efforts to build their endogenous capacity in science and technology,

Recalling the need to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, in particular to the developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of the developing countries for the implementation of Agenda 21,

Stressing the need for developed countries and international organizations to continue to support the efforts of developing countries to create and develop endogenous scientific and technological capabilities,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means of strengthening endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in the developing countries,⁴⁸

1. *Endorses* the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1993 on the basis of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its first session,⁴⁹ including the recommendation that the Council, at its organizational session for 1994, include science and technology for development as a priority subject to be considered at the coordination segment of the Council in 1994;

2. *Stresses* that endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in the developing countries is indispensable to their efforts to mobilize indigenous resources for science and technology for development;

3. *Emphasizes* the vital role of the United Nations in supporting the developing countries in endogenous capacity-building in the field of science and technology;