Chapter IV

RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION

A. Resolutions

Resolution 66/1

Incheon Declaration

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,Adopts the following declaration:

Incheon Declaration

1. We, the members and associate members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, have gathered in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 13 to 19 May 2010 for the sixty-sixth session of the Commission.

2. We express our appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Korea, and Incheon Metropolitan City, for hosting the present session in Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea, nineteen years after the hosting of the forty-seventh session in Seoul in 1991, which contributed to the strengthening of regional cooperation.

3. We note the importance of General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000 on the United Nations Millennium Declaration and General Assembly resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005 on the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which calls for the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals, and reaffirms the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, and General Assembly resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 on the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development.

4. We welcome the convening of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on accelerating progress towards the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, to be held in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010, which could serve as an opportunity to reaffirm commitments to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, with only five years remaining before the 2015 deadline.

5. We take note of the report entitled Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in an Era of Global Uncertainty: Asia-Pacific Regional Report 2009/10, which was jointly launched in Manila on 17 February 2010 by the regional partnership of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.

6. We express concern that the recent global economic crisis has adversely affected progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and could leave an additional 21 million people in the Asia-Pacific region subsisting on an income of less than $1.25 a day in the period 2009-2010.

7. We welcome the efforts of countries in the region, especially the developing countries, which have made good progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, while remaining concerned that the region is still vulnerable to setbacks in achieving them.

8. We emphasize the need for stronger regional cooperation, which could make the region more resilient to future crises and bolster the capacity of countries in the region to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

9. We also emphasize the importance of the bottom-up, comprehensive, multisectoral approach to achieving the Millennium Development Goals that focuses on the protection and empowerment of individuals and communities.

10. We welcome the timely initiative of the Government of Indonesia to host the Special Ministerial Meeting for the Review of the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: Run Up to 2015 in Jakarta on 3 and 4 August 2010, which will serve as the Asia-Pacific preparatory meeting for the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session in September 2010 on accelerating progress towards the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

11. We look forward to a successful conclusion of the Special Ministerial Meeting for the Review of the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: Run Up to 2015.

26 See paras. 262 to 286 above.
12. We note that the recent financial and economic crisis and the highly volatile fuel prices, the food crisis and climate change have threatened progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

13. We recognize that green growth or environmentally sustainable economic growth, of which note was taken in Commission resolution 61/9 on the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, has provided policymakers in the region and throughout the world with a number of tools and policies for greening the economy and coping with the recent crises.

14. We also recall Commission resolution 64/3 on promoting renewables for energy security and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific.

15. We are convinced that green growth is one of the elements that creates synergies in the pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals by harmonizing efforts to achieve environmental sustainability (Goal 7) with efforts to achieve other Goals, including poverty alleviation (Goal 1), by providing new opportunities to achieve economic growth and coping with the recent crises.

16. We commend the Executive Secretary for her efforts to foster sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, through the continuous assistance and services provided by the Commission to countries in the Asia-Pacific region, in particular the countries with special needs (least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition) in support of their application of green growth or environmentally sustainable economic growth and other regional initiatives in the fields of environment and energy efficiency and energy conservation.

17. We recognize the contribution of green growth to the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/28 on the role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 2008, in which the Council invited the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to support initiatives directed towards implementing green initiatives in developing countries, encompassing, inter alia, the preparation of strategies for achieving a green economy in the context of sustainable development.

18. We strive to strengthen our efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by their respective target dates.

19. We intend:

(a) To strengthen our efforts to pursue green growth strategies as part of our response to the current crisis and beyond;

(b) To introduce, as appropriate, on a voluntary basis and taking into account national circumstances, and consistent with international trade obligations, policies, legislation and incentives encouraging companies to pursue the greening of existing business practices and to foster green industries by promoting eco-efficient production activities, developing environmentally sound technologies and marketing sustainable products and services;

(c) To strengthen bilateral and regional cooperation by building partnerships for capacity-building, technical assistance and the replication of best practices in promoting green growth.

20. We urge that financial and technical support be provided to countries in the Asian and Pacific region, particularly the least developed countries, in implementing the present declaration, as appropriate, by United Nations agencies, regional and international financial institutions and the private sector.

21. We request the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to assist countries in the region, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and Pacific island developing countries, in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, in accordance with their national development priorities;

(b) To facilitate the reinforcement of regional partnerships on the Millennium Development Goals;

(c) To contribute inputs to the Special Ministerial Meeting for the Review of the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: Run Up to 2015;

(d) To report the results of the Special Ministerial Meeting to the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on accelerating progress towards the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015;

(e) To coordinate with multilateral funding agencies with a view to enhancing financial and technology flows for the development and deployment of clean technologies in developing countries;

(f) To facilitate the exchange of information among members and associate members regarding national strategies and best practices in support of green growth and, if requested, to further assist in developing national strategies in this regard, and to report the results to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session.