Expressing grave concern over the rapid spread and increasing severity of drug abuse and related problems, such as crime, family breakdown and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome, in Asia and the Pacific, particularly among the poor,

Convinced that the resource book on measures to reduce illicit demand for drugs, which was published in 1982 and will be updated by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, will be a useful reference in developing effective national programmes for drug demand reduction, with special attention to the basic principles of demand reduction to be included in the updated version of the book,

Taking cognizance of the links between drug trafficking, illicit arms trafficking and other related organized criminal activities which undermine the economies and threaten the stability, security and sovereignty of States,

Mindful of the activities being undertaken by the Commission, in close collaboration with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, and other concerned United Nations bodies and agencies, including the United Nations Development Programme and the World Health Organization, as well as the Colombo Plan Bureau, to develop effective national programmes for drug demand reduction, with particular attention to community-based approaches to drug demand reduction,

Appreciative of the efforts made by the Executive Secretary to improve collaboration among members and associate members in drug demand reduction and related problems, particularly through the regional network of national focal points on demand aspects of drug abuse control,

1. Urges all members and associate members to accord priority to the development and implementation of effective policies and programmes to reduce the demand for drugs subject to abuse;

2. Invites all members and associate members which have not already done so to establish national focal points on demand aspects of drug abuse control as members of the regional network of national focal points on demand aspects of drug abuse control, and to provide all such focal points with the requisite mandates and resources to enable them to discharge their duties effectively;

3. Calls upon the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, as well as all other concerned United Nations bodies and agencies, to intensify their collaboration with ESCAP in activities aimed at the reduction of drug demand and related problems at the regional, subregional and national levels;

4. Urges all members and associate members to substantially promote their activities and methods for treatment and rehabilitation for drug abusers;

5. Invites all concerned non-governmental, private voluntary, and community-based organizations to offer their facilities, and to work in close coordination with Governments in the region, in the common effort to reduce the demand for drugs subject to abuse;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to available resources:

(a) To collaborate with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in undertaking further studies, where needed, on national policies and means of regional cooperation to reduce drug demand and related problems, with particular reference to the poor;

(b) To ensure that adequate assistance is provided to all members and associate members in the development and strengthening of comprehensive policies and programmes for the reduction of drug demand and the alleviation of related problems;

(c) To continue to promote the regional network of national focal points on demand aspects of drug abuse control, and to provide technical assistance to the countries and areas of the Pacific subregion in exploring the possibility of establishing a subregional training centre for drug demand reduction with no expectation that such a centre would be a subsidiary body of ESCAP;

(d) To explore the possibility, in close collaboration with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, of convening a regional expert meeting on drug abuse control in the Asian and Pacific region;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, and on proposed follow-up measures.

12th meeting
1 May 1995

51/11. Regional cooperation on space applications for environment and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific11

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 47/8 of 10 April 1991, by which it was decided to continue to promote and strengthen regional cooperation and collaboration in satellite technology applications for sustainable natural resources and environmental management, space technology and natural disaster reduction,

11 See para. 280 above.
Recalling also its resolution 49/5 of 29 April 1993 on the regional programme on space applications for development, in which it was decided to hold the Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Development in Asia and the Pacific in Beijing in September 1994,

Noting with satisfaction the success of the Ministerial Conference, which adopted the Beijing Declaration on Space Technology Applications for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, the Strategy for Regional Cooperation in Space Applications for Sustainable Development, and the Action Plan on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, and launched the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development,

Bearing in mind the strong interest of members and associate members in participating in the cooperative activities that would emerge from the Programme and their commitment to contribute to those activities,

Convinced of the essential role of space information technologies and their applications in environmental and natural resource management, human development and poverty alleviation, and sustainable development planning, including natural disaster reduction,

Recalling the efforts of the Commission in promoting space applications for sustainable development in the region and its commitment to continue to play a pivotal and catalytic role in that regard,

1. **Endorses** the recommendations of the Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in Beijing in September 1994;

2. **Endorses also** the Beijing Declaration on Space Technology Applications for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, the Strategy for Regional Cooperation in Space Applications for Sustainable Development, and the Action Plan on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific;

3. **Calls** for the early implementation of the recommendations of the Ministerial Conference, the Beijing Declaration, the Strategy and the Action Plan;

4. **Urges** all members and associate members to participate actively in the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development and also to initiate vigorously national implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan;

5. **Recommends** that the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Remote Sensing Programme reconstitute itself as the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development, under the purview of the Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development, which would advise as appropriate on the implementation of the Programme, and urges members and associate members to enhance their representation in the reconstituted Committee;

6. **Invites** all United Nations bodies and agencies concerned, and donor countries and agencies to provide technical and financial support for the implementation of the recommendations of the Ministerial Conference, the Beijing Declaration, the Strategy and the Action Plan;

7. **Reiterates** the call by the Ministerial Conference to include the Regional Space Applications Programme, as envisaged in the Action Plan, in the next intercountry programme of the United Nations Development Programme;

8. **Requests** the Executive Secretary:
   (a) To accord priority to the activities proposed in the Action Plan and to incorporate the Regional Space Applications Programme in the next medium-term plan;
   (b) To strengthen infrastructure within the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to implement the Programme successfully;
   (c) To mobilize both human and financial resources for the implementation of the recommendations of the Ministerial Conference, the Beijing Declaration, the Strategy and the Action Plan;
   (d) To report to the Commission at its fifty-third session on the implementation of these recommendations, and, as proposed in the Beijing Declaration, to include in its agenda an item on space technology applications for sustainable development.

12th meeting 1 May 1995

51/12. Strengthening of the Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 32/172 of 19 December 1977, in which the Assembly approved the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification; 42/189 of 11 December 1987 on the Plan of Action, 44/172 of 19 December 1989 concerning implementation of the Plan of Action, 47/188 of 22 December 1992, by which it

---

12 See para. 251 above.