

**2000/6. Regional cooperation on space applications for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolution 51/11 of 1 May 1995 on regional cooperation on space applications for environment and

sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific,<sup>18</sup> in which the Commission endorsed the recommendations of the First Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in Beijing on 23 and 24 September 1994, and the Beijing Declaration on Space Technology Applications for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific,<sup>19</sup>

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 51/123 of 13 December 1996 on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, in which the Assembly, inter alia, emphasized the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustainable development,

*Recalling further* the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III),<sup>20</sup>

*Recalling* the decision of the Commission at its fifty-fifth session in April 1999 to hold the Second Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific in New Delhi from 15 to 20 November 1999,

*Noting with satisfaction* the success of the Second Ministerial Conference, which adopted the Delhi Declaration on Space Technology Applications in Asia and the Pacific for Improved Quality of Life in the New Millennium<sup>21</sup> and the Strategy and Action Plan on Space Technology Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific for the New Millennium<sup>22</sup> and launched the second phase of the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development,

*Reiterating* the strong interest of members and associate members of the Commission in participating in the cooperative activities that will emerge from the second phase of the Programme and their commitment to contributing to those activities,

*Recognizing* the essential role of space technologies and their applications in environment and natural resources management, food security and agricultural systems, capacity-building, human resources development and education, poverty alleviation, natural disaster reduction, health care and hygiene, and sustainable development planning towards improving the quality of life,

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

1. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Second Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in New Delhi from 15 to 20 November 1999;<sup>23</sup>

2. *Also endorses* the Delhi Declaration on Space Technology Applications in Asia and the Pacific for Improved Quality of Life in the New Millennium<sup>21</sup> and the Strategy and Action Plan on Space Technology Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific for the New Millennium;<sup>22</sup>

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

4. *Encourages* all members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to participate actively in the second phase of the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development and to initiate effective national implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan;

5. *Recommends* that the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development, under the purview of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development of the Commission, advise as appropriate on the implementation of the Programme, and invites members and associate members to enhance their representation on the Consultative Committee;

6. *Invites* all United Nations bodies and agencies concerned, and multilateral donors and international agencies, to provide technical and financial support for the implementation of the recommendations of the Second Ministerial Conference, the Delhi Declaration and the Strategy and Action Plan envisaged for the second phase of the Programme;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific:

(a) To accord due priority to the activities proposed in the Strategy and Action Plan and to incorporate the Programme in the biennial programmes of work;

(b) To strengthen the capability of the secretariat of the Commission, subject to the availability of resources, to support the regional cooperative network towards successful implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan;

<sup>18</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 17 and corrigendum (E/1995/37 and Corr.1), chap. IV.*

<sup>19</sup> See ST/ESCAP/1451.

<sup>20</sup> See *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19–30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.1.3).

<sup>21</sup> E/ESCAP/1166, annex I.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>23</sup> See E/ESCAP/1166.

(c) To mobilize resources for technical cooperation activities in line with the recommendations of the Second Ministerial Conference, the Delhi Declaration and the Strategy and Action Plan;

(d) To report to the Commission at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of these recommendations.

*39th plenary meeting  
25 July 2000*