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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**Seventy-first session**

Agenda item 2 (c)

**Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific****71/2. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least
Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 in Asia and
the Pacific**

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration¹ and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,² which were adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 69/231 of 19 December 2014 on the follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, in which the Assembly underlined that there would be two regional-level preparatory meetings, taking advantage of the biennial regional meetings already scheduled for 2015, one in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa and the other in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Taking note of its resolution 70/3 of 8 August 2014 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 in Asia and the Pacific, in which the kind gesture of the Government of Cambodia to host an Asia-Pacific regional high-level policy dialogue on the Istanbul Programme of Action for the least developed countries in early 2015 was noted with appreciation,

Recalling that the Commission in its resolution 70/3 requested the Executive Secretary, inter alia, to organize the Asia-Pacific regional high-level policy dialogue on the Istanbul Programme of Action for the least developed countries in early 2015,

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Cambodia for hosting the High-level Policy Dialogue on the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade

¹ *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.*

² *Ibid.*, chap. II.

2011-2020, in Siem Reap, Cambodia, from 4 to 6 March 2015, which adopted the Siem Reap Angkor Outcome Document,³ and the Government of Bangladesh for hosting the Regional Meeting on Financing Graduation Gaps of Asia-Pacific Least Developed Countries in Dhaka from 28 to 30 October 2014, which provided a strong basis for the organization of the above-mentioned High-level Policy Dialogue,

Recognizing that while least developed countries have made some progress in achieving many of the goals and targets in the Programme of Action, they continue to face many challenges, such as pervasive poverty, serious structural impediments to growth, low levels of human development and high exposure to shocks and disasters, which are putting at risk the hard-won gains achieved so far,

Taking note with appreciation that the secretariat's publication *Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report 2015* provides a timely and comprehensive review and analysis of the status, challenges and prospects of each of these countries, and targeted policy options to promote their inclusive growth and sustainable development,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To transmit the Siem Reap Angkor Outcome Document as the input to the Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, to be held in Antalya, Turkey, in June 2016;

(b) To prepare and publish the *Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report* on an annual basis as one of the secretariat's publications and report the main findings and key messages of that report to the annual sessions of the Commission;

(c) To continue to assist Asia-Pacific least developed countries, in cooperation with other international entities and taking into account their respective mandates, in building their capacity to undertake appropriate policy responses to accelerate their structural transformation and to achieve other internationally agreed development goals, including the post-2015 development agenda, which is expected to be adopted at the United Nations Summit to Adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda in September 2015;

(d) To submit to the Commission at its seventy-second session a report on the progress achieved in implementing the present resolution.

Fifth plenary meeting
29 May 2015

³ See E/ESCAP/71/3.