



Economic and Social Council

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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Sixty-seventh session

Bangkok, 19-25 May 2011

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Opening of the session

Draft report

Sixty-seventh session of the Commission

A. Attendance and organization of work¹

1. The sixty-seventh session of the Commission was held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 19 to 25 May 2011. The session comprised two segments: the senior officials segment, which was held from 19 to 21 May 2011; and the ministerial segment, which was held from 23 to 25 May 2011.

¹ The list of countries/organizations attending the session is tentative and may be updated on 25 May 2011.

2. The session was attended by representatives of the following members and associate members:

Members

Afghanistan
Armenia
Australia
Bangladesh
Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
China
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Fiji
France
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Japan
Kazakhstan
Kiribati
Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Malaysia
Marshall Islands
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nauru
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Pakistan
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Samoa
Singapore
Solomon Islands
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Tonga
Turkey
Tuvalu
United States of America
Uzbekistan
Vanuatu
Viet Nam

Associate members

Hong Kong, China
Macao, China

3. By virtue of rule 3 of the Commission's rules of procedure, representatives of Belgium, Morocco, Romania and South Africa attended. Representatives of the Holy See also attended.
4. The session was attended by representatives of the following offices of the United Nations Secretariat: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Regional Commissions New York Office.
5. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; United Nations Children's Fund; United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women; United Nations Environment Programme; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; United Nations Human Settlements Programme; United Nations Institute for Training and Research; Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction; and United Nations Population Fund.
6. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present in a consultative capacity: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; International Maritime Organization; International Telecommunication Union; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; Universal Postal Union; World Bank; and World Health Organization.
7. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian and Pacific Coconut Community; Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation; Asian Development Bank; Association of Southeast Asian Nations; Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia; Economic Cooperation Organization; International Jute Study Group; International Organization for Migration; International Pepper Community; Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat; Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia; and Typhoon Committee.
8. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations: Franciscans International; HelpAge International; International Movement ATD Fourth World; International Trade Union Confederation; Baha'i International Community; Disabled Peoples' International Asia-Pacific Region; Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association; and World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises.
9. Representatives of the Asia-Pacific Development Centre on Disability and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta also attended the session.
10. The list of participants is given in document E/ESCAP/67/INF/2.
11. In accordance with rule 13 of its rules of procedure, the Commission elected Hon. Mr. Sarath Amunugama (Sri Lanka) Chair.

12. Following its past practice, the Commission decided to elect the following heads of delegations Vice-Chair:

H.E. Mr. Abdul Hadi Arghandehwal (Afghanistan)
H.E. Mr. Gowher Rizvi (Bangladesh)
H.E. Mr. Daw Penjo (Bhutan)
H.E. Mr. Ly Thuch (Cambodia)
H.E. Mr. Wu Hailong (China)
H.E. Mr. Ratu Inoke Kubuabola (Fiji)
H.E. Mr. Ebrahim Azizi (Islamic Republic of Iran)
H.E. Ms. Makiko Kikuta (Japan)
H.E. Mr. Timur Suleimenov (Kazakhstan)
Hon. Amberoti Nikora (Kiribati)
H.E. Mr. Nurlan Aitmurzaev (Kyrgyzstan)
H.E. Mr. Hiem Phommachanh (Lao People's Democratic Republic)
H.E. Mr. Miyegombo Enkhbold (Mongolia)
H.E. Mr. Kan Zaw (Myanmar)
H.E. Mr. Kieren Keke (Nauru)
Hon. Jackson R. Ngiraingas (Palau)
Hon. Sali Subam (Papua New Guinea)
H.E. Mr. Mateo Montaña (Philippines)
H.E. Mr. Lee Si-Hyung (Republic of Korea)
Hon. Elijah Doro Muala (Solomon Islands)
H.E. Mr. Kasit Piromya (Thailand)
Hon. Lotoala Metia (Tuvalu)
H.E. Mr. Le Hoai Trung (Viet Nam)

13. The senior officials segment of the session met in two Committees of the Whole. The following officers were elected:

(a) *Committee of the Whole I:*

Chair:

Mr. Makmur Sanusi (Indonesia)

Vice-Chair:

Mr. Minute Taupo (Tuvalu)

Mr. Damdin Tsogtbaatar (Mongolia)

(b) *Committee of the Whole II:*

Chair:

Mr. Igor Shcherbak (Russian Federation)

Vice-Chair:

Ms. Carmelita N. Erieta (Philippines)

Mr. Solo Mara (Fiji)

14. The Commission also constituted a Working Group on Draft Resolutions under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Sohail Mahmood (Pakistan) to consider draft resolutions submitted during the session. Mr. Kurtulus Aykan (Turkey) was elected Vice-Chair of the Working Group.

B. Agenda

15. The Commission adopted the following agenda:

Senior officials segment

1. Opening of the session:
 - (a) Opening addresses;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries:
 - (a) Addressing development gaps, including the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;
 - (b) Other matters.
3. Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission, including the work of the ESCAP regional institutions:
 - (a) Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and inclusive development;
 - (b) Trade and investment;
 - (c) Transport;
 - (d) Environment and development;
 - (e) Information and communications technology;
 - (f) Disaster risk reduction;
 - (g) Social development;
 - (h) Statistics;
 - (i) Subregional activities for development.
4. Management issues:
 - (a) Draft programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013;
 - (b) Programme changes for the biennium 2010-2011;
 - (c) Midterm review of the functioning of the conference structure of the Commission;
 - (d) Technical cooperation activities of ESCAP and announcement of intended contributions.

5. Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission.
6. Dates, venue and theme topic for the sixty-eighth session of the Commission (2012).

Ministerial segment

7. Policy issues for the Asia-Pacific region:
 - (a) Key challenges to inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific;
 - (b) Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2011.
8. Theme topic for the sixty-seventh session: “Beyond the crises: long-term perspectives on social protection and development in Asia and the Pacific”.
9. Other matters.
10. Adoption of the report of the Commission.

C. Account of proceedings

Senior officials segment

16. The senior officials segment of the sixty-seventh session was opened by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP on 19 May 2011. The Executive Secretary delivered a welcoming statement.

Ministerial segment

17. The Acting Chair of the sixty-sixth session, Hon. Lotoala Metia (Tuvalu), declared open the ministerial segment of the sixty-seventh session on 23 May 2011. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP read out the message of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and delivered her welcome statement.
18. Keynote addresses were made by H.E. Mr. Jigmi Y. Thinley, Prime Minister of Bhutan, and H.E. Mr. Enkhbold Miyegombo, Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia. H.E. Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva, Prime Minister of Thailand, delivered the inaugural address.