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Agenda item 5

Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

Draft report

Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

1. The Commission had before it the report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/68/19). In his capacity as Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee, the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to ESCAP presented the highlights of the activities of the Committee during the preceding year.
2. Representatives of Thailand and the Russian Federation made statements.
3. Since the sixty-seventh session of the Commission, the Advisory Committee had held five regular sessions and one special session to review the draft strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015, and seven meetings of the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions.
4. A key activity of the Advisory Committee during the period under review had been the review of its terms of reference, a task which had been entrusted to it under resolution 67/15. An informal working group had been established, and with a view to strengthening the role and effectiveness of the Advisory Committee, member States had proposed some changes to its terms of reference.
5. The Advisory Committee had also considered an analysis of the current state of documentation, prepared by the secretariat, in line with Commission resolution 67/15 with a view to moving towards paperless Commission sessions with fewer but higher quality documents and had endorsed the recommendations contained in the report of the informal working group.

6. The Advisory Committee had also provided comments regarding the draft strategic framework for ESCAP for the biennium 2014-2015 (E/ESCAP/68/17 and Corr.1) as well as suggestions for changes, which had been presented to the Commission.

7. Another key focus of the work of the Advisory Committee during the period under review had been to provide guidance on the implementation of the 15 resolutions adopted by the Commission at its sixty-seventh session.

8. The Commission noted the important role of the Advisory Committee in the constructive dialogue between member States and the secretariat, and as a channel for members of the Commission to participate effectively in, and contribute to, the implementation by the secretariat of the decisions of the Commission.
