



Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction**Fourth session**

Bangkok, 27-29 October 2015

Annotated provisional agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction (section I) and the annotations to the provisional agenda (section II).

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Regional mechanisms for disaster risk reduction in the context of the post-2015 development agenda.
5. Regional multi-hazard early warning systems.
6. Risk-sensitive development.
7. Development of disaster-related statistics.
8. Regional cooperation on the applications of space technology and geographic information systems for disaster risk reduction.
9. Consideration of the future focus of the subprogramme.
10. Consideration of possible draft resolutions for submission to the Commission at its seventy-second session.
11. Other matters.
12. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

1. Opening of the session

Documentation

Tentative programme (E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/INF/3)

Annotation

The programme for the opening of the session will be announced in due course.

2. Election of officers

Documentation

List of participants (E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/INF/2)

Annotation

A chair and two vice-chairs will be elected for the session.

3. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda (E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/L.1)

Annotation

The provisional agenda shall be considered and adopted by the Committee, subject to such changes as deemed necessary.

4. Regional mechanisms for disaster risk reduction in the context of the post-2015 development agenda

Documentation

Regional mechanisms for disaster risk reduction in the context of the post-2015 development agenda (E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/1)

Annotation

The importance of disaster risk reduction and the building of resilience to disasters are highlighted in many targets of the proposed sustainable development goals. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) further reaffirms the important role of regional platforms in delivering on its priority areas for action. Under this agenda item, the Committee will have before it document E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/1, which presents how disaster risk reduction and the building of resilience to disasters is being addressed in the post-2015 development agenda and outlines the regional mechanisms for disaster risk reduction. The document will also explore opportunities for enhanced regional cooperation and strengthening of existing regional cooperation mechanisms, in particular to address common and transboundary disaster risks.

The Committee is invited to consider the issues and deliberate on policies aimed at promoting regional cooperation to reduce disaster risk and build resilience in the Asian and Pacific region within the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

5. Regional multi-hazard early warning systems

Documentation

Strengthening regional multi-hazard early warning systems (E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/2)

Annotation

Early warning is a key component of effective disaster risk management. One of the global targets of the Sendai Framework calls for a substantial increase in the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments by 2030. Under this agenda item, document E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/2 provides a discussion on the role of early warning systems in building resilience, with a special focus on the cost-effectiveness of multi-hazard early warning systems. The document takes stock of the progress made in strengthening early warning systems in Asia and the Pacific; highlights significant gaps in early warning in the region, especially in high-risk low-capacity countries and at the local level; and outlines regional priorities for achieving the global target.

The Committee may wish to discuss opportunities for closer regional cooperation in early warning as part of the regional implementation of the Sendai Framework.

6. Risk-sensitive development

Documentation

Risk-sensitive development in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/3)

Disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction (E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/INF/4)

Annotation

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction calls for risk-sensitive development. Under this agenda item, document E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/3 analyses the importance of risk-sensitive development and investment that may reduce underlying risk factors and prevent creating new risks, especially those that affect the poor and the most vulnerable. It calls for multisectoral policy planning aimed at mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development planning and budgeting, and building resilience of critical sectors. The document will also consider opportunities for strengthening public-private partnerships to safeguard supply chains and reduce risks to businesses, especially with regard to small and medium enterprises.

Information note E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/INF/4 discusses issues, challenges and progress made in the area of disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction.

The Committee is invited to share perspectives on risk-sensitive development in the context of the post-2015 development agenda in order to provide the secretariat with guidance in advancing this area of work at the regional level.

7. Development of disaster-related statistics

Documentation

Towards an agreed basic range of disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/4)

Annotation

Lack of an agreed basic range of disaster-related statistics has hampered the effective use of disaster data to inform development processes in the countries in the region. It has further prevented aggregation, analysis and benchmarking at the regional level. Recognizing this gap, the Commission in its resolution 70/2 decided to establish an expert group comprising statisticians and disaster risk reduction experts to work towards developing a basic range of disaster-related statistics. In the resolution, it also decided that the expert group should report on progress made in this endeavour to the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015. Under this agenda item, document E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/4 discusses the critical need for such an agreed basic range of disaster-related statistics, which has found renewed impetus in the recently adopted Sendai Framework and the upcoming post-2015 development agenda. The document presents an account of the expert group meetings and progress made towards developing a basic range of disaster-related statistics for Asia and the Pacific.

The Committee may wish to provide guidance to the secretariat on its work on disaster-related statistics.

8. Regional cooperation on the applications of space technology and geographic information systems for disaster risk reduction

Documentation

Promoting regional cooperation on the applications of space technology and geographic information systems for effective disaster risk reduction (E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/5)

Annotation

Space technology and geographic information systems (GIS) both have played a vital role in assessing risks and impacts of disasters through enhanced regional cooperation. In document E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/5, the secretariat presents issues relevant to applications of space technology and GIS in disaster risk reduction, response, recovery and sustainable development. The document outlines the progress made with regard to Commission resolution 69/11 on the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action for Applications of Space Technology and Geographic Information Systems for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development, 2012-2017. It also highlights the work of the secretariat in four priority areas: (a) provision of near real-time satellite imagery to disaster-affected countries; (b) operationalization of the regional cooperative mechanism for drought monitoring and early warning; (c) capacity-building to address the gaps and emerging challenges in the use of space technologies and GIS; and (d) research and policy analysis on the application of emerging technologies.

The Committee may wish to share good practices in the applications of space technology and GIS for building resilience to disasters. It may also wish to provide guidance on the future focus and activities of the secretariat

related to fostering regional cooperation in space applications for disaster risk reduction and management.

9. Consideration of the future focus of the subprogramme

Under this agenda item, the Committee may wish to provide the secretariat with guidance on the focus of the long-term work of the secretariat in the area of disaster risk reduction for the planning of the strategic framework of the subprogramme for the biennium 2018-2019.

10. Consideration of possible draft resolutions for submission to the Commission at its seventy-second session

Under this agenda item, member States may wish to circulate, in advance, proposals and/or texts of draft resolutions on priority issues relating to disaster risk reduction for consideration by the Commission at its seventy-second session in 2016.

11. Other matters

The Committee may raise any matter not covered under the items mentioned above.

12. Adoption of the report

Documentation

Draft report (E/ESCAP/CDR(4)/L.2)

Annotation

The Committee will consider and adopt the report on its fourth session for submission to the Commission at its seventy-second session, to be held in 2016.
