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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference

Bangkok, 16-20 September 2013

Agenda item 9

Adoption of the report of the Conference

Draft report of the Conference

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I. Proceedings

A. Review of the progress and remaining challenges in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in Asia and the Pacific and proposed thematic priorities for the development agenda beyond 2015

1. The Conference had before it the following documents: (a) "Review of the progress and remaining challenges in implementing, in the Asia-Pacific region, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development" (E/ESCAP/APPC(6)/1); and (b) "Consideration of proposed thematic priorities in population and development in the development agenda beyond 2015" (E/ESCAP/APPC(6)/2).

2. Statements were made by the representatives of the following ESCAP members and associate members: Afghanistan; Australia; Azerbaijan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; China; Cook Islands;¹ India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Mongolia; Myanmar; Pakistan; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Sri Lanka; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and United States of America.

3. A statement was made on behalf of 120 civil society organizations concerned with population and development issues.

4. The Conference took note of the findings of a survey on implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development² in Asia and the Pacific. That survey, conducted by ESCAP in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), had benefited from the responses of 51 Governments, yielding a response rate of 88 per cent and representing 99 per cent of the population of the region.

5. The Conference noted that the findings indicated significant progress made by the region in implementing the Programme of Action in terms of increasing the availability of sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning, improving maternal health and promoting gender equality.

6. Many delegations affirmed their continuing commitment to the International Conference on Population and Development, particularly the principles of a rights-based approach to population issues, gender equality and the empowerment of women. Delegations also noted many of the challenges, and approaches to meeting them, that were specific to the Asian and Pacific region.

7. Several delegations reported major achievements in poverty reduction and increases in life expectancy and contraceptive prevalence rates as well as significant reductions in such indicators as infant and child mortality, maternal mortality and unmet need for family planning. Those achievements had been attained through holistic approaches to population and development

¹ On behalf of Pacific island States.

² *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

in which population issues were integrated into national development strategies.

8. Many countries reported on institutional changes that they had introduced and that had contributed to the achievement of the goals of the Programme of Action. Several countries had adopted new national population and reproductive health policies and enacted legislation to promote gender equality, as well as increased the political participation of women while combating violence against women and children. Some countries had strengthened the legal protection of domestic workers.

9. Several delegations reported significant progress in reducing poverty levels and improving their scores on the human development index compiled by the United Nations Development Programme. That progress had been achieved by focusing on human resource development through education and training, employment and increased access to health services.

10. Delegations described the measures that their countries had taken to improve the health and well-being of their populations. Reproductive health services were integrated into national health strategies. Several countries were implementing programmes of universal health coverage. In the area of reproductive health, an emphasis had been placed on: (a) maternal health, including increased access to contraception, with a focus on spacing methods; (b) greater training of midwives and other health personnel; and (c) strengthening of emergency obstetric care. Several delegations reported increasing the number of public health clinics in underserved areas in an effort to reach such populations as persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities and migrants.

11. The incidence of HIV and AIDS in the region remained a threat that had generally been addressed by reproductive health programmes. Some delegations reported on efforts to halt the spread of HIV through education, prevention, treatment, care and support, and by removing policy barriers that impeded access by key affected populations. The delegation of India reported that the High Court of Delhi had struck down for consenting adults a provision of the Indian Penal Code that criminalized homosexual acts.

12. Some delegations reported on measures to ensure sexual and reproductive health and rights to all individuals without discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

13. Aside from reproductive health, some delegations reported on efforts to prevent, detect and treat non-communicable diseases and to improve public health through such measures as expanding the provision of safe drinking water and improved sanitation.

14. Several delegations acknowledged, however, that challenges remained. Access to sexual and reproductive health services was uneven and maternal mortality was still high in some countries. Many delegations also noted that, while the unmet need for family planning had remained high in some countries, other countries had experienced declining populations, very low fertility and rapidly changing age structures.

15. Several delegations expressed the need for increased social protection, especially for women and vulnerable groups, such as persons with disabilities, older persons, indigenous peoples and migrants. Several delegations reported on successful initiatives to expand universal access to health and education, as well as successful interventions targeting vulnerable groups.

16. The importance of strengthening educational systems was stressed by many delegations. Education was identified by some member States as a means of reducing poverty and preparing youth for employment. Several delegations noted achieving, or progressing towards, universal education with gender equity, particularly at the primary level. Policies and practices supporting adolescent mothers to complete their education had also been introduced by some member States. Some delegations noted the challenge of providing education for vulnerable populations, including the children of migrants, children with disabilities and children living in poverty. A delegation from a small island developing State reported that providing education services in remote islands was a development challenge.

17. Many delegations underscored the cross-cutting importance of gender equality and women's empowerment, both in terms of past progress in the implementation of the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development, and for future achievements in population and development. Improving women's and girls' equal, equitable and rights-based access to, and participation in, health and education, employment and livelihood creation, public and political life, and decision-making was accorded high priority by several member States.

18. Diverse legislative, policy and institutional reforms in support of gender equality and women's empowerment were reviewed. A particular emphasis was placed by many member States, in terms of both past achievements and prevailing challenges, on ending all forms of violence against women and providing protection and services for survivors of violence, including gender-biased cultural practices and prenatal sex selection, rape and other forms of sexual violence, acid attacks, human trafficking, early marriage, domestic violence and workplace harassment.

19. Several delegations highlighted the importance of strengthening policies and services for families and older persons. That included providing family-friendly policies, such as expanding childcare and strengthening work-life balance. It also included placing priority on strengthening rights-based institutional and service frameworks that support older persons and prevent abuse and neglect. Several delegations emphasized policy challenges with respect to ageing societies and the need for attention to the quality of life of older persons and social protection.

20. Several delegations emphasized that their countries were undergoing demographic transition with a large young population. They highlighted the necessity of meeting the aspirations and needs of young people as a priority, with several delegations noting the importance of enhanced youth participation. A particular focus was placed on the challenges associated with job creation and employment opportunities for youth and their appropriate skill development and training. A few delegations highlighted the fact that young women were facing higher unemployment than young men and particular barriers in accessing employment.

21. Several member States expressed concern regarding continued high or increasing adolescent fertility rates, including unplanned pregnancies. Such an increase was, in one country, linked to an increase in early marriages.

22. Several delegations acknowledged the contribution of migrants to the societies and economies of countries of origin and of destination. One delegation from a country of destination noted its welcoming of refugees and their possibility of long-term integration as citizens of the country. Several delegations emphasized the need for social protection of migrant workers,

including access to health and reproductive health services, and described measures that they had taken to provide protection to migrant workers.

23. Several delegations noted that significant rural-to-urban population movements constituted a challenge. Some delegations reported that their countries had addressed urbanization and internal migration in development strategies. One delegation also reported that its country had improved the registration of internal migrants, which had, in turn, improved their access to health and education.

24. The Conference emphasized the need for improved data and statistics on population issues as a key requirement for population planning. It was noted that statistics on population and health should be disaggregated by sex and, to the extent possible, internationally comparable.

25. The Conference expressed a commitment to international cooperation on matters related to population and development. Several delegations stressed the importance of involving all stakeholders, including civil society organizations, in implementing and monitoring population programmes. The Conference welcomed the description by the delegation of Japan of that country's Global Health Policy 2011-2015, through which it would contribute \$5 billion in support of the achievement of health-related Millennium Development Goals.

B. Consideration of the draft outcome document of the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference

26. The Conference had before it a working paper entitled "Draft Asian and Pacific ministerial declaration on population and development"³ for its consideration. The senior officials decided to forward the document to the ministerial segment of the Conference for consideration and adoption by the ministers (see para 62 below).

C. Adoption of the report of the senior officials

27. It was agreed that the report of the senior officials segment would be considered along with the report of the proceedings of the ministerial segment.

D. Review of forward-looking policies to address challenges in population and development, including the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in Asia and the Pacific

28. The Conference had before it the two documents identified in paragraph 1 above.

29. Statements were made by the representatives of the following ESCAP members and associate members: Afghanistan; Australia; Azerbaijan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; China; Cook Islands; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Fiji; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Marshall Islands; Micronesia (Federated States of); Mongolia; Myanmar; Nauru; Nepal; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Samoa; Solomon Islands; Sri Lanka; Timor-Leste; Tonga; Tuvalu; United States of America; Vanuatu; and Viet Nam.

³ E/ESCAP/APPC(6)/WP.1 and Rev.1 and 2.

30. Statements were also made by representatives of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and a representative from civil society reporting on the civil society forum on the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, held in Bangkok on 12 and 13 September 2013.

31. The Conference reviewed achievements in the area of population and development over the preceding two decades and noted remaining challenges.

1. Poverty eradication and employment

32. The Conference recognized that the eradication of poverty and the attainment of high levels of employment were necessary for achieving other goals of social and economic development. The Conference noted the progress made in substantially reducing poverty rates and stressed the need for continued efforts in this area. Several countries reported that they were on track to achieve Millennium Development Goal 1 on poverty eradication.

33. Several delegations stressed the need to increase investments in social protection, including social security, social assistance, and accessible and affordable health care. Some delegations highlighted the role of social protection policies in building resilience among vulnerable and marginalized groups. One delegation acknowledged the need to develop more robust service delivery networks.

34. Many delegations emphasized the role of rural development and increased agricultural productivity in poverty reduction.

35. Several delegations recognized that creating productive employment opportunities was an essential strategy to reduce poverty. Many delegations emphasized the importance of youth employment initiatives and one delegation emphasized the importance of creating green jobs.

2. Health

36. Delegations described actions taken to achieve the health-related Millennium Development Goals and promote universal access to acceptable, affordable and high-quality health care. They noted that progress had been made in terms of addressing infant, child and maternal mortality and expanding health-care services. However, development gaps existed regarding the lack of skilled health-care personnel, rural-urban inequalities, malnourishment, poor sanitation and significant variations in life expectancy among ethnic groups. Some delegations reported increasing adolescent fertility, abortion rates and incidence of HIV among youth. Further challenges included addressing non-communicable diseases, mental health issues and high rates of neonatal mortality. Several delegations stressed commitments to achieving and promoting universal coverage of health care, with a priority of reaching marginalized groups, including internal migrants.

3. Sexual and reproductive health, services and rights

37. Delegations reported on initiatives to ensure access to essential sexual and reproductive health information, care and services. Many delegations reported major achievements on key indicators of sexual and reproductive health, such as maternal and child mortality and contraceptive prevalence rates,

which they attributed to a significant expansion in sexual and reproductive health services.

38. Some delegations, however, reported persistently high maternal mortality. Similarly, some delegations reported a significant unmet need for family planning in their countries, particularly in rural areas, as well as decreasing contraceptive use, resulting in an increase in unplanned pregnancies, particularly among young people. In that context, countries announced that their priority policy focus would be further strengthening sexual and reproductive health services or revitalizing family planning programmes. Several delegations informed the Conference about their intentions to achieve universal access to reproductive health and to increase skilled birth attendance, particularly in rural areas. Some delegations expressed the view that prevailing harmful practices and traditional beliefs impeded access to and utilization of sexual and reproductive health services. Thus, their policy priority would be to work with community and religious leaders to improve access to such services.

4. Education

39. The Conference emphasized the fundamental importance of education for all in realizing population and development goals. Delegations reported significant progress in moving towards and achieving universal access to primary education. Progress was also noted in reducing school dropout rates and attaining higher levels of literacy and gender parity in enrolment. Several delegations, while acknowledging the need for educational systems to remain flexible and responsive to challenges, highlighted their countries' commitment to incorporating comprehensive sexuality education into curricula. The Conference noted, however, that challenges remained with regard to increasing access to higher levels of education and associated gender gaps.

5. Gender equality and women's empowerment

40. The Conference stressed that gender equality and women's empowerment were fundamental to social and economic development. Many delegations reported that their countries were committed to realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women, which are at the heart of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and essential for sustainable social and economic development. They indicated that gender equality and the empowerment of women could be achieved through the development and implementation of national policies, programmes and plans of action, as well as through constitutions, legislation, national budgetary allocations, national women's machineries and measures that address sociocultural obstacles. The necessity of applying normative commitments, pursuing evidence-based planning and ensuring gender-responsive budgeting were also highlighted as means of realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women.

41. Many delegations recognized gender-based violence, including sexual violence, domestic violence, and early and forced marriage, as a major challenge and a priority concern, given the negative impacts on the individual, family, community and entire society.

42. In their commitment to ending violence against women and girls, many delegations identified multisectoral measures for preventing and eliminating such violence, including awareness-raising campaigns to address sociocultural norms, comprehensive sexuality education, engaging men and boys, enforcing zero tolerance, and providing health and social services for survivors of

violence, including safe houses. Several delegations informed the Conference of their progress in introducing legislation to criminalize violence against women and girls, such as family violence bills.

43. Some delegations observed that gender equality could not be achieved without addressing sexual and reproductive health and rights, and that improvements in the sexual and reproductive health of women and girls were a factor in gender equality gains in such areas as education, employment and social participation.

44. Several delegations stressed the importance of promoting the economic independence and the economic empowerment of women in realizing the goal of gender equality. To that end, many delegations recognized education as a prerequisite for increasing the presence of women in the workforce and as entrepreneurs.

45. Many delegations also shared their experience in adopting specific measures to increase women's labour force participation, including vocational training, maternity and parental leave, and childcare services.

46. The Conference underscored the significance of supporting and encouraging women to assume leadership and decision-making positions within both the public and private sectors. Delegations referred to a range of measures to improve women's participation in the political realm, including: (a) providing capacity-building and leadership training; (b) applying quotas or political reservation systems; (c) engaging women in peace negotiations; (d) fostering networks; and (e) enacting relevant legislation.

47. Some delegations stated that their countries recognized persons with different sexual orientations and gender identities and the associated need to end discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

48. In addressing gender inequalities and discrimination, several delegations stressed the necessity of respecting cultural, religious and traditional beliefs, values and customs, as well as existing national legislation.

6. Adolescents and youth

49. Many delegations stressed that it was essential for young people to be involved in and benefit from comprehensive policies on population and development, including those for sexual and reproductive health. Several delegations noted that, in recognition of the opportunity presented by the demographic dividend, there was a need to fulfil the aspirations of youth and ensure their full participation in the development process. In that regard, the growing influence of social media networks was highlighted as playing a significant role in increasing youth awareness and expectations. Delegations voiced concerns in relation to high levels of youth unemployment, especially among females, exposure to vulnerable sector work, high rates of sexually transmitted infections and limited access to sexual and reproductive health services. Several delegations reported on progress in developing youth policies, programmes and interventions to promote youth as a strategic development priority, and stressed the need for collaboration with youth organizations and the associated benefits of establishing peer networks among young people.

7. Ageing

50. Delegations reported on policy initiatives taken to respond to population ageing. The Conference recognized the changing demographic

structures and the unprecedented pace of population ageing in the Asian and Pacific region. Many delegations emphasized that they were developing comprehensive national policies and strategies in preparation for an ageing society. Such policies were aimed at, among other objectives, providing an enabling environment for healthy and active ageing, as well as harnessing the potential of older persons so that they could continue to contribute to the socioeconomic development of society.

51. Many delegations emphasized the importance of upholding the dignity of older persons through, among other things, the provision of social protection and comprehensive and integrated health and social services, including long-term care for older persons. In that regard, they stressed the need to adapt health and social systems in response to the rising demand for elder care and support, with particular attention to the specific needs of older women.

8. Family

52. Underscoring the significance of the family as the foundation of society but also taking into account changes in family structure, many delegations stressed the need to integrate family concerns into national development planning. In that regard, one delegation informed the Conference of its national family policy, which included a provision for the expansion of family and marriage counselling services, as well as an initiative to grant tax exemptions to private companies organizing family activities during National Family Month. Some delegations shared their experiences in adopting specific social protection measures, such as cash transfers and food vouchers, to address the needs of families living in poverty and of female-headed households.

9. International migration

53. Some delegations noted that nationals living abroad contributed to development of their countries of origin through remittances. Some delegations from Pacific island countries noted that outmigration mitigated the effects of high fertility but, in some cases, also resulted in de-population of certain areas. Other delegations noted that their countries had become countries of destination for migrants. Several delegations recommended that future policy directions should include formulating migration policies that promote safe migration, protect the rights of migrants and respect fundamental human rights. Other delegations informed that their future policy focus would be encouraging the voluntary return of their nationals living abroad. Several delegations described steps that had been taken to curtail trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.

10. Urbanization and internal migration

54. Several delegations recognized the challenges of rapid urbanization and the disparities between rural and urban development, and described measures to promote more balanced rural-urban development. Some delegations described policies to assist and provide services to migrants in urban areas, especially young migrants. Other delegations pointed out that high out-migration, particularly of young people, contributed to de-population of certain areas. Thus, the policy focus in the future would be retaining young people through creation of domestic employment opportunities.

11. Population and sustainable development

55. The Conference recognized that population and sustainable development were inextricably linked and called for more comprehensive

integration of population factors into sustainable development strategies. Several delegations recognized the social impact of climate change and the increasing frequency and intensity of natural disasters. Many delegations recognized the importance of sustainable management of resources and the importance of strengthening governance for disaster risk reduction and disaster response. One delegation emphasized the need to close the gap between economic and ecological initiatives.

12. Data and statistics

56. The Conference recognized that collection, compilation and dissemination of data on population factors were essential for social and economic policy formulation. Several delegations emphasized that further data collection was particularly required in rural areas. Other delegations emphasized the need to collect more detailed data and information on adolescent pregnancies in order to identify appropriate responses to increasing adolescent fertility rates.

13. Modalities for implementation at the national, regional and global levels

57. The Conference emphasized the need for national, regional and global mechanisms for further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 and for addressing the post-2015 development agenda. In that context, many delegations emphasized that South-South cooperation would be a key modality for implementation. Many delegations requested technical as well as financial support from international organizations and through triangular cooperation as well as South-South cooperation, while several developed countries expressed their readiness to provide technical support to developing countries.

58. Several delegations also pointed out that active engagement with communities, civil society and parliamentarians was essential to the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

59. Some delegations also noted the need for strengthening multi- and bilateral frameworks for protecting the rights of migrants and ensuring orderly migration.

60. Some delegations from the Pacific subregion expressed the view that their survival was being threatened by climate change and that collective regional and global action was required to address this challenge.

E. Other matters

61. The delegation of Japan made a brief intervention to highlight the importance of gender equality and empowerment of women for accelerating implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development across all its thematic areas.

F. Adoption of the Asian and Pacific Declaration on Population and Development, including the Asia-Pacific regional input for the special session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014

62. The Conference had before it a working paper entitled “Draft Asian and Pacific declaration on population and development”

(E/ESCAP/APPC(6)/WP.1/Rev.3) for its consideration. [The Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development was adopted on 20 September 2013.]

G. Adoption of the report of the Conference

63. [The report of the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference was adopted by consensus on 20 September 2013.]

H. Closing of the Conference

64. [Closing statements were made by Mr. Anote Tong, President of Kiribati and Chair of the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, the Executive Secretary of ESCAP, the Deputy Executive Director of UNFPA and Dr. Nafis Sadik, Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development.]

II. Organization

A. Objectives

65. The objectives of the Conference were as follows: (a) to review population and development trends in the Asian and Pacific region; (b) to review progress in the regional implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development; (c) to serve as the intergovernmental platform for considering and adopting the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development, which would also serve as the regional input for the special session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014.

B. Attendance

66. The Conference was attended by the following ESCAP members: Afghanistan; Australia; Azerbaijan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; China; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Fiji; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Kazakhstan; Kiribati; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Marshall Islands; Micronesia (Federated States of); Mongolia; Myanmar; Nauru; Nepal; Netherlands; New Zealand; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Samoa; Solomon Islands; Sri Lanka; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Tonga; Tuvalu; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America; Uzbekistan; Vanuatu; Viet Nam.

67. ESCAP associate members: Cook Islands and Niue.

68. United Nations Secretariat: Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

69. United Nations bodies: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

70. Specialized agencies and related organizations: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); World Health Organization (WHO).

71. Intergovernmental organizations: International Organization for Migration (IOM); Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS); South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC).

72. Non-Governmental organizations: Aahung; Asia Pacific Forum on Women; Law and Development (APWLD); Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD); Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW); Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN); HelpAge International (HI); International Center for Research on Women (ICRW); International Council on Management of Population Programmes (ICOMP); International HIV/AIDS Alliance; International Planned Parenthood Federation; East and South East Asia and Oceania Region (IPPF ESEAOR); International Planned Parenthood Federation; South Asia Region (IPPF SARO); International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC); International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP Asia Pacific); IPAS; Shirkat Gah; Women's Resource Centre; Saviya Development Foundation (SDF).

73. Other entities: Aliansi Remaja Independen (ARI); Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (APA); Asia Pacific Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (APN+); Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP); Asian Population Association (APA); Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC); Centre for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population (CCIHP); Centre for Health Education; Training and Nutrition Awareness (CHETNA); China Youth Network (CYN); Coalition of Asia Pacific Regional Networks on HIV/AIDS (7 Sisters); Fenomena; Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM); Indonesian Planned Parenthood Association (IPPA); International Federation of Red Cross and Crescent Societies (IFRC); Marie Stopes International Australia (MSIA); Komnas Perempuan; Migrant Assistance Program (MAP) Foundation; National Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of Myanmar; Pacific Youth Council; Partners in Population and Development (PPD); Planned Parenthood Association of Thailand (PPAT); Population Foundation of India (PFI); Real People Real Vision (RPRV); Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Justice (RESURJ); Rutgers WPF; SAHAYOG; Saviya Women's Organizations; South Asian Regional Youth Network; The YP Foundation (TYPF); Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation (TAPV); University of Health Sciences; Women Deliver; Inc.; Women's Rehabilitation Center (WOREC Nepal); Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of Sri Lanka; Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights (YCSRR); Youth Lead; Youth Parliament of Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB); Youth Theatre Light; Y-PEER International Network Nepal; Yunnan Health and Development Research Association (YHDRA).

74. In addition, two members of the High-level Task Force for ICPD participated as observers.

C. Senior officials segment

1. Opening and duration

75. The senior officials segment of the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference was convened by ESCAP, in cooperation with UNFPA, in Bangkok, from 16 to 18 September 2013.

76. The Conference was inaugurated by Mr. Pradit Sintavanarong, Minister of Public Health of Thailand, who delivered a statement.

77. Statements were also made by the Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP and the Executive Director of UNFPA. Students from the International School of Bangkok gave a performance on the voices of young people and three young women representing the Regional Youth Forum delivered a joint statement at the Conference.

2. Election of officers

78. The Conference elected the following officers:

Chair: Mr. Keshav Desiraju (India)
 Vice-Chair: Ms. Janette Garin (Philippines)
 Rapporteur: Dr. Tenneth Dalipanda (Solomon Islands)

3. Agenda

79. The senior officials adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the senior officials segment:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Review of the progress and remaining challenges in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in Asia and the Pacific and proposed thematic priorities for the development agenda beyond 2015.
3. Consideration of the draft outcome document of the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference.
4. Adoption of the report of the senior officials.

4. Side events

80. The following special events were held:

(a) A special session was organized by the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development on 18 September 2013 on the theme “Young people’s access to sexual and reproductive health and HIV services: what’s law got to do with it”;

(b) A luncheon side event on ending violence against women and girls was also held on 18 September 2013. It was organized by the Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women of the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism.

D. Ministerial segment

1. Opening and duration

81. The ministerial segment of the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference was convened in Bangkok on 19 and 20 September 2013. The

Conference was inaugurated by Mr. Phongthep Thepkanjana, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand.

82. Statements were also made by: Mr. Anote Tong, President of Kiribati; the Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP; the Deputy Executive Director of UNFPA; and the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development.

2. Election of officers

83. Conference elected the following officers:

Chair: Mr. Anote Tong (Kiribati)

Vice-Chairs:

Mr. Ahmad Jan Naeem (Afghanistan)
Mr. Hukum Khan Habibi (Afghanistan)
Ms. Sayeda Mostafavi (Afghanistan)
Ms. Meher Afroze (Bangladesh)
Ms. Bin Li (China)
Mr. Nandi Tuaine Glassie (Cook Islands)
Ms. Jiko Luveni (Fiji)
Mr. Kenya Akiba (Japan)
Ms. Toshiko Abe (Japan)
Mr. Somchit Inthamith (Lao People's Democratic Republic)
Datuk Hj. Azizah Datuk Seri Panglima Hj. Mohd. Dun
(Malaysia)
Mr. Abdulla Jihad (Maldives)
Mr. Erdene Sodnomzundui (Mongolia)
Mr. Amarsanaa Jazag (Mongolia)
Mr. Vidyadhar Mallik (Nepal)
Ms. Joan Sisiati Tahafa Viliamu (Niue)
Ms. Zakia Shah Nawaz (Pakistan)
Mr. Sergio Gama Da Costa Lobo (Timor-Leste)
Mr. Rialuth Serge Vohor (Vanuatu)
Mr. Tien Nguyen Viet (Viet Nam)

Rapporteur: Dr. Fasli Jalal (Indonesia)

3. Agenda

84. The ministers endorsed the agenda adopted by the senior officials (see para. 79 above) and adopted the following agenda for the ministerial segment:

5. Opening of the ministerial segment:
 - (a) Opening addresses;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
6. Review of forward-looking policies to address challenges in population and development, including the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in Asia and the Pacific.
7. Other matters.

8. Adoption of the Asian and Pacific Declaration on Population and Development, including the Asia-Pacific regional input for the special session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014.
9. Adoption of the report of the Conference.
10. Closing of the Conference.

E. Special events

85. A high-level panel on civil registration and vital statistics entitled “Know your population” was organized by ESCAP and held on 20 September 2013. It was moderated by Ms. Thin Lei Win. The following served as panellists: [Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Secretary of ESCAP]; Ms. Jiko Luveni, Minister of Social Welfare, Women and Poverty Alleviation, Fiji; and Dr. Fasli Jalal, Head of the National Population and Family Planning Board, Indonesia.

Annex**List of documents**

Symbol	Title	Agenda item
E/ESCAP/APPC(6)/L.1	Provisional agenda	
E/ESCAP/APPC(6)/L.2	Annotated provisional agenda	
E/ESCAP/APPC(6)/1	Review of the progress and remaining challenges in implementing, in the Asia-Pacific region, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development	2
E/ESCAP/APPC(6)/2	Consideration of proposed thematic priorities in population and development in the development agenda beyond 2015	2
E/ESCAP/APPC (6)/WP.1 and Revs.1-3	Draft Asian and Pacific Ministerial declaration on population and development	3
