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

Bangkok, 15-19 May 2017

Agenda item 12

Adoption of the report of the Commission**Draft report****Organization of the seventy-third session of the Commission****A. Attendance and organization of work**

1. The seventy-third session was held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 15 to 19 May 2017.
2. The session was attended by representatives of the following members and associate members:

Members

Afghanistan
Armenia
Australia
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
China
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Fiji
France
Georgia
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Japan
Kazakhstan
Kiribati
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Malaysia
Marshall Islands
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nauru
Nepal
Pakistan

Palau
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Samoa
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Tajikistan
Thailand
Tonga
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Tuvalu
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
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, Canada, Czechia, Germany, Portugal and Switzerland attended. Representatives of the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies also attended.

4. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian Productivity Organization; Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and South-East Asia; Economic Cooperation Organization; ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee; International Organization for Migration; Mekong River Commission; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia; Shanghai Cooperation Organization; and WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones.

5. A representative of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States of the United Nations Secretariat attended.

6. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; and United Nations Development Programme.

7. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present in a consultative capacity: International Civil Aviation Organization; International Maritime Organization; International Telecommunication Union; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; and Universal Postal Union.

8. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations: Associated Country Women of the World; Baha'i International Community; Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations; German Agency for

International Cooperation; International Federation of Business and Professional Women; LDC Watch; National Council of Women of Thailand; Organization of the Families of Asia and the Pacific; Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association of Thailand; and World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises.

9. The list of participants is available from www.unescap.org/commission/73/listOfParticipants.

10. In accordance with rule 13 of its rules of procedure, the Commission elected Mr. Enele Sosene Sopoaga (Tuvalu) as Chair of the seventy-third session.

11. Following its past practice, the Commission decided to elect as Vice-Chairs the heads of delegations participating at the ministerial level:

Mr. Abdul Sattar Murad (Afghanistan)
 Mr. Gulmammad Javadov (Azerbaijan)
 Mr. Muhammad Abdul Mannan (Bangladesh)
 Mr. Ly Thuch (Cambodia)
 Mr. Qian Hongshan (China)
 Mr. Jone Usamate (Fiji)
 Mr. Semi Tuleca Koroilavesau (Fiji)
 Mr. Gellwyn Daniel Hamzah Jusuf (Indonesia)
 Mr. Teuea Toatu (Kiribati)
 Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith (Lao People's Democratic Republic)
 Mr. John M. Silk (Marshall Islands)
 Mr. Tsend Munkh-Orgil (Mongolia)
 Mr. Min Bahadur Shrestha (Nepal)
 Ms. Adoracion M. Navarro (Philippines)
 Mr. Vasily Nebenzya (Russian Federation)
 Mr. Tialavea Tionisio Hunt (Samoa)
 Mr. Ajith P. Perera (Sri Lanka)
 Ms. Gulru Jabborzoda (Tajikistan)
 General Tanasak Patimapragorn (Thailand)
 Mr. Samuela 'Akilisi Pohiva (Tonga)
 Mr. Batyr Bazarov (Turkmenistan)
 Mr. Joe Natuman (Vanuatu)
 Mr. Pham Sanh Chau (Viet Nam)

12. 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: Ms. Peseta Noumea Simi (Samoa)
 Vice-Chairs: Mr. Mostainbillah Balagh (Afghanistan)
 Mr. Meas Bora (Cambodia)

(b) Committee of the Whole II

Chair: Ms. Doma Tshering (Bhutan)
 Vice-Chairs: Mr. Emin Mammadov (Azerbaijan)
 Mr. Khamso Kouphokham
 (Lao People's Democratic Republic)

13. The Commission also constituted the Working Group on Draft Resolutions to consider the draft resolutions submitted during the session. Mr. Khaga Nath Adhikari (Nepal) was elected Chair and Mr. Pita Tagicakirewa (Fiji) was elected Vice-Chair of the Working Group.

B. Agenda

14. 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, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries:
 - (a) Development issues relevant to least developed countries;
 - (b) Development issues relevant to landlocked developing countries;
 - (c) Development issues relevant to Pacific island developing countries;
 - (d) Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report 2017.
3. Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission, including the work of the regional institutions:
 - (a) Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development;
 - (b) Trade and investment;
 - (c) Transport;
 - (d) Environment and development;
 - (e) Information and communications technology, science, technology and innovation;
 - (f) Disaster risk reduction;
 - (g) Social development;
 - (h) Statistics;
 - (i) Subregional activities for development;
 - (j) Energy.
4. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific:
 - (a) Fourth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development;
 - (b) Financing for development.
5. Management issues:
 - (a) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019;
 - (b) Programme changes for the biennium 2016-2017;

- (c) Overview of partnerships, extrabudgetary contributions and capacity development.
- 6. Review of the implementation of Commission resolution 71/1.
- 7. Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission.
- 8. Dates, venue and theme topic for the seventy-fourth session of the Commission (2018).

Ministerial segment

- 9. Policy issues for the Asia-Pacific region:
 - (a) Inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific through regional economic cooperation and integration;
 - (b) Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2017.
- 10. Theme topic for the seventy-third session of the Commission: “Regional cooperation for sustainable energy”.
- 11. Other matters.
- 12. Adoption of the report of the Commission.

C. Opening of the session

Senior officials segment

15. The senior officials segment was opened by the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on 15 May 2017. The Executive Secretary delivered a welcome statement.

Ministerial segment

16. Mr. Enele Sosene Sopoaga (Tuvalu) presided over the opening session of the ministerial segment of the seventy-third session, on 17 May 2017. A video message from the Secretary-General was played. The Executive Secretary delivered her welcome remarks and policy statement. General Tanasak Patimapragorn, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, delivered the inaugural address on behalf of the Government of Thailand. Mr. Tommy Esang Remengesau, Jr., President of Palau, and Ms. Helen Clark, former Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, delivered keynote speeches. Ms. Dessima Williams, Special Adviser on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, delivered remarks on behalf of the President of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly.

D. Adoption of the report of the Commission

17. The report of the Commission was adopted at its 6th plenary meeting on 19 May 2017.