



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
6 August 2014

Original: English

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Seventieth session

Bangkok, 4-8 August 2014 (Phase II)

Agenda item 11

Adoption of the report of the Commission

Draft report

Organization of phase II of the seventieth session of the Commission

A. Attendance¹ and organization of work

1. Owing to special circumstances in Bangkok, the seventieth session was held in two phases. Phase I was held in the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) in Bangkok on 23 May 2014. Phase II was also held in UNCC from 4 to 8 August 2014.

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]

¹ The list of countries/organizations attending the session is tentative and will be updated with those in actual attendance.

[Kyrgyzstan]
[Lao People's Democratic Republic]
[Malaysia]
[[Maldives]
[Marshall Islands]
[Micronesia (Federated States of)]
[Mongolia]
[Myanmar]
[Nauru]
[Nepal]
[Netherlands]
[[New Zealand]
[Pakistan]
[Palau]
[Papua New Guinea]
[Philippines]
[Republic of Korea]
[Russian Federation]
[Samoa]
[Singapore]
[Solomon Islands]
[Sri Lanka]
[Tajikistan]
[Thailand]
[Timor-Leste]
[Tonga]
[Turkey]
[Turkmenistan]
[Tuvalu]
[United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland]
[United States of America]
[Uzbekistan]
[Vanuatu]
[Viet Nam]

Associate members

[American Samoa]
[Cook Islands]
[French Polynesia]
[Guam]
[Hong Kong, China]
[Macao, China]
[New Caledonia]
[Niue]
[Northern Mariana Islands]

3. By virtue of rule 3 of the Commission's rules of procedure, representatives of [Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic and Hungary] attended. Representatives of [the Holy See] also attended.

4. The session was attended by representatives of the following offices of the United Nations Secretariat: [Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; and Regional Commissions New York Office.]

5. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended: [Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights; United Nations Children's

Fund; United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; United Nations Environment Programme; 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 Civil Aviation Organization; International Fund for Agricultural Development; International Labour Organization; International Maritime Organization; International Telecommunication Union; United Nations Human Settlements Programme; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; World Health Organization; and World Meteorological Organization].

7. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: [Asian and Pacific Coconut Community; Asian Development Bank; Colombo Plan Secretariat; International Pepper Community; International Organization for Migration; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee; and Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia].

8. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations: [Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development; Associated Country Women of the World; International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations; Muslim World League; Baha'i International Community; Organization of the Families of Asia and the Pacific; LDC Watch; Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements; Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association; and World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises.]

9. Representatives of [Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability and Sovereign Military Order of Malta] also attended the session.

10. The list of participants is available from www.unescap.org/commission/list-of-participants.

11. In accordance with rule 13 of its rules of procedure, the Commission elected H.E. Mr. Tshering Tobgay (Bhutan) as Chair of the seventieth session.

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

H.E. Mr. M.A. Mannan (Bangladesh)
 H.E. Mr. Rinzin Dorji (Bhutan)
 H.E. Mr. Ly Thuch (Cambodia)
 H.E. Mr. Li Baodong (China)
 H.E. Mr. Seiji Kihara (Japan)
 H.E. Mr. Bektas Mukhamejanov (Kazakhstan)
 H.E. Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith (Lao People's Democratic Republic)
 H.E. Mr. Luvsanvandan Bold (Mongolia)
 H.E. Ms Oyun Sanjaasuren (Mongolia)
 H.E. Mr. Zin Yaw (Myanmar)
 H.E. Mr. Govind Raj Pokharel (Nepal)
 H.E. Mr. Cho Tae-yul (Republic of Korea)
 H.E. Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi (Pakistan)
 H.E. Mr. Gil S. Betran (Philippines)
 H.E. Mr. Louis Napoleon Casembre (Philippines)
 H.E. Mr. Cho Tae-yul (Republic of Korea)
 H.E. Mr. Vasily Nebenzya (Russian Federation)

Hon. Connelly Sadakabatu (Solomon Islands)
H.E. Mr. Sarath Amunugama (Sri Lanka)
Hon. Aisake Valu Eke (Tonga)
Hon. Maatia Toafa (Tuvalu)
Hon. Sato Kilman (Vanuatu)
H.E. Mr. Ha Kim Ngoc (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: Ms. Noumea Simi (Samoa)

Vice-Chairs: H.E. Mr. Suwanda Hennadige Shantha Kottegoda
(Sri Lanka)

H.E. Mr. Hossein Kamalian (Islamic Republic of Iran)

(b) Committee of the Whole II

Chair: H.E. Mr. Harsh Vardhan Shringla (India)

Vice-Chairs: H.E. Ms. Jocelyn Batoon-Garcia (Philippines)

Mr. Jeremiah Manele (Solomon Islands)

14. The Commission also constituted the Working Group on Draft Resolutions, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Kesang Wangdi (Bhutan), to consider draft resolutions submitted during the session. Mr. Jonathan Kenna (Australia) was elected Vice-Chair of the Working Group.

B. Agenda

15. During Phase I 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) Preparations for the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, Samoa, 2014;
- (b) Sustainable management of oceans for sustainable development and poverty eradication;
- (c) Development issues relevant to least developed countries;
- (d) Development issues relevant to landlocked developing countries;

- (e) The perspectives of Asia-Pacific least developed, landlocked developing and Pacific island developing countries in the context of the development agenda beyond 2015;
 - (f) Other matters.
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 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) Report on the evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2012-2013;
 - (b) Programme changes for the biennium 2014-2015;
 - (c) Draft strategic framework for the biennium 2016-2017;
 - (d) Technical cooperation activities of ESCAP and announcement of intended contributions.
5. Evaluation pursuant to resolution 67/4: Establishment of the Asian and Pacific centre for the development of disaster information management.
6. Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission.
7. Dates, venue and theme topic for the seventy-first session of the Commission (2015).

Ministerial segment

8. 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 2014.
9. Theme topic for the seventieth session of the Commission: “Regional connectivity for shared prosperity”.

10. Other matters.

11. Adoption of the report of the Commission.

16. The following agenda items were considered during Phase II: items (1), (2), (3), (4b), (4d), (8), (9), (10) and (11).

C. Opening of the session

Senior officials segment

17. The senior officials segment was opened by the Executive Secretary on 4 August 2014. The Executive Secretary delivered a welcoming statement.

Ministerial segment

18. The Chair of the sixty-ninth session, H.E. Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão (Timor-Leste), presided over the opening session of the ministerial segment of the seventieth session on 7 August 2014. The Executive Secretary delivered the message of the Secretary-General as well as her welcoming and policy statements. H.E. Mr. Manasvi Srisodapol, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, delivered the inaugural address on behalf of the Government of Thailand.

19. Keynote addresses were made by H.E. Mr. Tshering Tobgay, Prime Minister of Bhutan; H.E. Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, Prime Minister of Timor-Leste; and H.E. Lord Tu'ivakano, Prime Minister of Tonga.

D. Adoption of the report

20. The report of the Commission on Phase II of its seventieth session was adopted at its eighth plenary meeting on 8 August 2014.
