



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
27 April 2013

Original: English

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Sixty-ninth session

Bangkok, 25 April-1 May 2013

Agenda item 4 (c)

Management issues: Technical cooperation activities of ESCAP and announcement of intended contributions

Draft report

Technical cooperation activities of ESCAP and announcement of intended contributions

1. The Commission had before it the overview of technical cooperation activities and extrabudgetary contributions (E/ESCAP/69/17).
2. Representatives of the following countries made statements: Bhutan; China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Malaysia; Republic of Korea; and Thailand.
3. In the introductory remarks of the Executive Secretary, the Commission was informed about the key steps taken by the secretariat to strengthen the results of its technical cooperation work over the past year. The Executive Secretary highlighted measures and actions of the secretariat, through its Programme Planning and Partnerships Division, in stepping up relations with development partners, including the first annual multi-agency consultation meeting with partner agencies of the Republic of Korea, the largest donor country of ESCAP, as well as discussions with numerous other existing and potential donors. In underscoring the growing importance of the private sector as a key partner of the secretariat in delivering capacity development, the Executive Secretary informed the Commission about a task force on private sector partnerships and resource mobilization established by the secretariat that was working towards completing a strategy on collaborating with the private sector.
4. The Commission noted that total contributions received by the secretariat for technical cooperation activities in 2012 from the regular budget of the United Nations as well as voluntary sources amounted to approximately \$17.9 million, with the total volume of technical cooperation delivery in 2012 being approximately \$16.3 million.

5. The Commission expressed its appreciation and support for the technical cooperation work of the secretariat, including the activities of the five ESCAP regional institutions.

6. The delegation of Indonesia reported that its Government had supported the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information Technology for Development (APCICT) by providing it with in-kind contributions equivalent to \$500,000 in 2011, \$350,000 in 2012 and \$500,000 in 2013 for the implementation of training programmes. The delegation encouraged other member States to also extend support to APCICT programmes and activities. The delegation also highlighted the strong support extended by the Government of Indonesia as host to the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Development (CAPSA), and invited other member States to raise their financial contributions to the Centre. In highlighting the increasing relevance and importance of the mandate of CAPSA to alleviate poverty through secondary crops development for rural areas of Asia and the Pacific, the delegation noted its expectation that the Centre would play an increasingly important role in poverty reduction in the region. The delegation also encouraged further mainstreaming of the Centre's programme and activities into the programme of work of ESCAP.

7. The delegation of China expressed appreciation for the efforts of the secretariat to strengthen coordination and cooperation with other United Nations agencies and international organizations, including the Asian Development Bank, as well as the efforts to expand resources for technical cooperation projects. The delegation noted that capacity development and other forms of project cooperation differentiated ESCAP from other United Nations agencies. The delegation pointed out that the Government of China over the past year had worked with ESCAP in areas such as transport, rural renewable energy, trade facilitation and health. The delegation noted that its Government would continue to work with ESCAP under the framework of the China-ESCAP Cooperation Programme, and that it would enhance its cooperation and consultations with the Programme Planning and Partnerships Division and substantive divisions to delineate areas of common interest.

8. The delegation of Bhutan commended the secretariat for strengthening its technical cooperation work over the past year, engaging with a large number of stakeholders in order to enhance the capacity of member States. The delegation noted the particular focus accorded to countries with special needs, such as Bhutan. The delegation announced a new annual contribution effective 2013 in support of the ESCAP Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia.

9. The Commission expressed its appreciation for the following contributions pledged by members and associate members of ESCAP for 2013.

10. *Bhutan.* The delegation of Bhutan announced that its Government would make the following contribution:

ESCAP Sub-regional Office for South and South West Asia	\$1,000
--	---------

11. *China.* The delegation of China announced that its Government would make the following contributions:

China-ESCAP Cooperation Programme	\$200,000
and RMB	1,500,000
NEASPEC	\$50,000
Decade of Disabled Persons	\$10,000
APCTT	\$30,000
SIAP	\$60,000
CSAM	\$20,000

12. *Fiji.* The secretariat received written notification that the Government of Fiji intended to continue to provide its normal contributions.

13. *India.* The delegation of India announced that its Government would make the following contributions:

APCICT	\$20,000
APCTT	\$200,000
SIAP	\$25,000
ESCAP Sub-regional Office for South and South-West Asia	\$79,000

In addition, the delegation indicated that a contribution from its Government to the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization was under consideration.

14. *Indonesia.* The secretariat received written notification that the Government of Indonesia would make to the following contributions:

APCTT	\$10,000
CAPSA	\$79,662
CSAM	\$30,000
SIAP	\$30,000

The delegation of Indonesia informed the Commission that its Government intended to make an in-kind contribution to APCICT equivalent to \$500,000 for 2014 and to CAPSA equivalent to \$93,000 for 2013.

15. *Iran (Islamic Republic of).* The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran would provide its contribution to ESCAP and its affiliated bodies to the secretariat in written form.

16. *Japan.* The delegation of Japan announced that its Government would make the following contributions for the period April 2013 to March 2014:

Japan-ESCAP Cooperation Fund	\$57,800
SIAP	\$1,640,700

The delegation indicated that its Government intended to make an in-kind contribution equivalent to \$1,280,000 to SIAP for the period April 2013 to March 2014. In addition, the delegation announced its Government's intention to provide fellowships for 92 person-months for group training courses as part of its technical cooperation programme through the Japan International Cooperation Agency, in cooperation with SIAP.

17. *Macao, China.* The secretariat received written notification that the government of Macao, China would make the following contributions:

APCICT	\$5,000
APCTT	\$5,000
CAPSA	\$3,000
SIAP	\$20,000

18. *Malaysia.* The delegation of Malaysia announced that its Government would make the following contributions:

APCTT	\$15,000
CAPSA	\$10,000
SIAP	\$20,000
CSAM	\$20,000

19. *Mongolia.* The secretariat received written notification that the Government of Mongolia would make the following contribution:

ESCAP Programme of work	\$5,000
SIAP	\$10,000

20. *Myanmar.* The secretariat received written notification that the Government of Myanmar would make the following contribution:

ESCAP Programme of work	\$2,000
SIAP	\$1,000

21. *Republic of Korea.* The delegation of the Republic of Korea announced that its Government would make the following contributions:

Korea-ESCAP Cooperation Fund	\$300,000
Other extrabudgetary projects	\$274,600
APCICT	\$3,000,000
CAPSA	\$20,000
CSAM	\$10,000
SIAP	\$50,000

The delegation of the Republic of Korea indicated that its Government was considering increasing the annual contribution to the Korea-ESCAP Cooperation Fund to \$500,000.

The delegation of the Republic of Korea also announced the following contribution from the Incheon Metropolitan City:

ESCAP Sub-regional Office for East and North-East Asia	\$1,430,000
---	-------------

22. *Thailand.* The delegation of Thailand announced that its Government would make contributions as follows:

APCTT	\$15,000
CAPSA	\$10,000
CSAM	\$15,000
SIAP	\$30,000

The delegation also noted that its Government might provide in-kind support to CAPSA through best practice sharing and by sending experts to assist in the fields of production and production control.

23. In concluding, the Executive Secretary thanked the Commission for its support of the secretariat's technical cooperation programme and expressed appreciation to members and associate members that had pledged financial support for 2013 for their generosity and assured the Commission that the secretariat would use the financial resources available to it efficiently and effectively to achieve results that would enhance the lives and prospects of people across the region.