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**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific****Sixty-ninth session**

Bangkok, 25 April-1 May 2013

Agenda item 3 (i)

**Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission, including the work of the regional institutions:  
Subregional activities for development****Draft resolution****Sponsored by: Solomon Islands****Co-sponsored by: Kiribati****Sustainable management, conservation and use of ocean resources for the development of Asia-Pacific small island developing States***The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,**Recalling* General Assembly resolution 67/78 on oceans and the law of the sea,*Acknowledging* the important role of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea<sup>1</sup> in governing all uses of the oceans and their resources,*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 65/2 on the outcome document of the High-level Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, in which the Assembly recognized that small island developing States continue to be heavily dependent on their coastal and marine resources, and that their development challenges include limited access to financing, technologies and equipment, global overfishing and destructive fishing practices, and barriers to increased participation in fisheries and related activities,*Recalling also* its resolution 68/1, in which it invited members and associate members, as appropriate, to recognize the importance of oceans and the sustainable development of ocean resources to Pacific small island developing States,

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

*Recognizing* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>2</sup> in which, inter alia, the Conference stressed the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and seas and of their resources for sustainable development, including through their contributions to poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, food security and creation of sustainable livelihoods and decent work, while at the same time protecting biodiversity and the marine environment and addressing the impacts of climate change,<sup>3</sup>

*Recognizing also* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development urged the identification and mainstreaming by 2014 of strategies that further assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in developing their national capacity to conserve, sustainably manage and realize the benefits of sustainable fisheries,<sup>4</sup>

*Noting* “The Oceans Compact — Healthy Oceans for Prosperity”,<sup>5</sup> an initiative of the Secretary-General,

*Noting with appreciation* the Pacific Oceanscape Framework initiative, which focuses urgent and timely attention on the extensive threats to the health of the Pacific Ocean and those who depend upon it,

*Recognizing* the important role and mandate given to the regional commissions to support the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and regional cooperation for sustainable development,

1. *Invites* States Parties to fully implement their obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;<sup>1</sup>

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, international financial institutions, other regional and subregional organizations and bilateral donors:

(a) To support capacity development in Asia-Pacific small island developing States for the sustainable management of oceans and seas in accordance with the Convention as part of their efforts to eradicate poverty and ensure food security in the context of sustainable development;

(b) To undertake analysis in order to develop the evidence base for determining how the sustainable use of oceans and seas and their resources can contribute to poverty eradication and sustained economic growth in Asia-Pacific small island developing States;

(c) To submit a report detailing the manner in which the secretariat can support member States in the sustainable management of oceans and seas for sustainable development and poverty eradication to the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries at the seventieth session of the Commission;

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<sup>2</sup> General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., para. 158.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., para. 174.

<sup>5</sup> [www.un.org/Depts/los/ocean\\_compact/oceans\\_compact.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/ocean_compact/oceans_compact.htm).

3. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventy-first session on the progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

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