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Agenda item 4 (a)

Management issues: Report on evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2010-2011

Draft report

Report on evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2010-2011

1. The Commission had before it the report on evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2010-2011 (E/ESCAP/68/15).

2. In introducing the agenda item, the Executive Secretary indicated that evaluation was a critical part of the agenda of ESCAP and its commitment as a learning organization and expressed her commitment to the implementation of evaluation recommendations and follow-up actions. The Executive Secretary stated that the 16 evaluation exercises carried out by the secretariat during 2010-2011 had contributed to organizational effectiveness, knowledge, learning and accountability. Furthermore, the Executive Secretary highlighted the value of formalized frameworks for coordination, including the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM), to enhance accountability and coordination with other stakeholders in all aspects of the work of ESCAP and to bring the United Nations family together to deliver as one at the regional level.

3. In referring to the entire agenda item, one delegation expressed its support for the Executive Secretary's strong emphasis on results, partnerships and learning. In that context, the delegation stressed the importance of assessing the impact of ESCAP activities and how those activities were making a difference across the region. The delegation held the view that an objective impact evaluation should, among other things, help keep the work of ESCAP in sharp focus and fully aligned with the Organization's mandate and the priorities of member States. The delegation also expressed its support for efforts to strengthen partnerships between member States and the secretariat. In that regard, emphasis was given to the importance of close consultations and to engagement with all subregions through dialogue and project implementation in a balanced manner. In terms of cooperation with subregional organizations, the delegation

proposed that linkages with the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization be strengthened. Finally, the delegation expressed support for efforts aimed at building synergies and ensuring maximum coherence between the work of ESCAP headquarters and that of its subregional offices as well as that of other United Nations agencies. It recognized the RCM as an important vehicle for advancing the latter.

4. The Commission took note of the report.
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