



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Sixty-fifth session
23-29 April 2009
Bangkok

**Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission:
Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and inclusive development**

(Agenda item 2 (a))

Draft resolution

*Sponsored by: Indonesia
Co-sponsored by: Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan*

**Strengthening of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops
Development in Asia and the Pacific**

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolutions 174 (XXXIII) of 29 April 1977 and 220 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982 on the Regional Coordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling also its resolutions 60/5 of 28 April 2004 and 61/5 of 18 May 2005 on the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific,

Taking note of the Outcome Document¹ of the High-level Regional Policy Dialogue on “The food-fuel crisis and climate change: Reshaping the Development Agenda”, organized by ESCAP and the Government of Indonesia and held in Bali, Indonesia, in December 2008, which urged, inter alia, greater technical cooperation efforts to support capacity-building aimed at strengthening national food security programmes, research and development on sustainable agriculture, and regional cooperation in preventing and coping with food crises and ensuring that all people have access to food,

* Reissued for technical reasons.

¹ E/ESCAP/65/15/Add.1.

Noting with appreciation the significant financial resources that have been provided to the Centre, since its establishment, by member States,

Noting also with appreciation the allocation of a regular-budget P-5 post to the Centre for a senior economic affairs officer,

Taking note of the recommendations of the Governing Council at its fifth session, held in Bangkok on 4 March 2009, as contained in the report of the Centre,²

Welcoming the commitment of the Executive Secretary and the Governing Council to strengthen the Centre and increase its relevance for the countries in the region through a focus on policy and action research,

1. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Governing Council, within the existing statute³ of the Centre, to turn the Centre into a coordinating research institute and a regional member-driven centre of excellence that focuses on poverty alleviation through secondary crops development with special attention to addressing food security, hunger and malnutrition;⁴

2. *Decides* that the new position and focus of the Centre should take into account the following aspects:

(a) The membership of the Technical Committee should include heads of national agricultural research centres of member countries;

(b) The research carried out by the Centre should be focused on sustainable secondary crop farming systems and agribusiness development in the context of inclusive agricultural and rural development for food security and poverty alleviation;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions of the Governing Council at its fifth session that the Centre's primary focus is on networking with national agricultural research centres in the region and beyond; promoting and coordinating research; highlighting and disseminating their research findings; and converting the results of primary research into relevant policy options for the region;⁵

4. *Adopts* the recommendation of the Governing Council to allow for a larger Council than the current eight members plus the host country in order to enhance the sense of ownership of the Centre by the member States,⁶ and decides, in this regard, to adopt the revised statute of the Centre, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

5. *Agrees*, in this regard, that all nine members submitting nominations for membership in the Governing Council of the Centre during the sixty-fifth session of the Commission, in addition to the host country, Indonesia, namely Bangladesh, Cambodia, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Republic of Korea and Thailand, should become members of the Council for the period 2009-2012;

² E/ESCAP/65/25.

³ Commission resolution 60/5 of 28 April 2004, annex.

⁴ See E/ESCAP/65/25, para. 1.

⁵ *Ibid.*, para. 3.

⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 2.

6. *Urges* the members of the Commission to increase their regular voluntary contributions to the Centre, and to contribute professional staff working in the areas of poverty alleviation through secondary crops development to the Centre;

7. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to provide financial and human resources to the Centre, and to mobilize additional voluntary resources to enhance its capacity to fulfil its mandate;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session.

Annex

**STATUTE OF THE CENTRE FOR ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY THROUGH
SECONDARY CROPS DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

Establishment

1. The Regional Coordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific (hereinafter referred to as “CGPRT Centre”), established in April 1981 pursuant to Commission resolution 174 (XXXIII) of 29 April 1977 and its Statute adopted by Commission resolution 220 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982, shall continue in existence under the title Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (hereinafter referred to as “CAPSA” or “the Centre”) and under the terms of the present Statute.
2. The membership of CAPSA is identical to the membership of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (hereinafter referred to as “ESCAP” or “the Commission”).
3. The Centre has the status of a subsidiary body of ESCAP.

Objective

4. The objective of CAPSA is to promote a more supportive policy environment in member countries to enhance the living conditions of rural poor populations in disadvantaged areas, particularly those who rely on secondary crops agriculture for their livelihood, and to promote research and development related to agriculture to alleviate poverty in the Asian and Pacific region.

Functions

5. The Centre will achieve the above objective by undertaking such functions as:
 - Coordination of socio-economic and policy research on secondary crops
 - Networking and partnership with other international organizations and key stakeholders
 - Research and analysis of trends and opportunities with regard to improving the economic status of rural populations
 - Production, packaging and dissemination of information and successful practices on poverty reduction
 - Dissemination of information and good practices on poverty reduction measures
 - Training of national personnel, particularly national scientists and policy analysts
 - Advisory services

Status and organization

6. CAPSA shall have a Governing Council (hereinafter referred to as “the Council”), a Director and staff, and a Technical Committee.
7. CAPSA is located in Bogor, Indonesia.
8. The activities of CAPSA shall be in line with relevant policy decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission. CAPSA shall be subject to the Financial and Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and the applicable administrative instructions.

Governing Council

9. The Centre shall have a Governing Council consisting of a representative nominated by the Government of Indonesia and no fewer than eight, but no more than fourteen representatives of members and associate members of the Commission elected by the Commission. The members and associate members elected by the Commission shall be elected for a period of three years but shall be eligible for re-election. The Executive Secretary or his/her representative shall attend meetings of the Council.
10. The Director of the Centre shall serve as Secretary of the Council.
11. Representatives of (a) States that are not members of the Council, (b) United Nations bodies and specialized and related agencies and (c) such other organizations as the Council may deem appropriate as well as experts in fields of interest to the Council may be invited by the Executive Secretary to attend meetings of the Council.
12. The Council shall meet at least once a year and may adopt its own rules of procedure. Sessions of the Council shall be convened by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP, who may propose special sessions of the Council at his/her own initiative and shall convene such special sessions at the request of a majority of Council members.
13. A quorum for meetings of the Council shall be a majority of its members.
14. Each member of the Council shall have one vote. Decisions and recommendations of the Council shall be made by consensus or, where this is not possible, by a majority of the members present and voting.
15. The Council shall, at each regular session, elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. They shall hold office until the next regular session of the Council. The Chairperson or, in his/her absence, the Vice-Chairperson shall preside at meetings of the Council. If the Chairperson is unable to serve for the full term for which he/she has been elected, the Vice-Chairperson shall act as Chairperson for the remainder of that term.
16. The Council shall review the administration and financial status of CAPSA and the implementation of its programme of work. The Executive Secretary shall submit an annual report, as adopted by the Council, to the Commission at its annual sessions.

Director and staff

17. CAPSA shall have a Director and staff, who shall be ESCAP staff members appointed under the appropriate United Nations regulations, rules and administrative instructions. The Director shall be appointed in a manner consistent with United Nations regulations and rules. The Council will be invited to nominate candidates for the position of Director, once the vacancy is announced, and provide advice, as appropriate. Other members and associate members of the Commission may also submit nominations for the post.

18. The Director shall be responsible to the Executive Secretary of ESCAP for the administration of CAPSA and the implementation of its programme of work.

Technical Committee

19. CAPSA shall have a Technical Committee consisting of experts from members and associate members of ESCAP and from intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Members of the Technical Committee shall be appointed by the Director in consultation with the Executive Secretary.

20. The Technical Committee shall be responsible for advising the Director on the formulation of the programme of work and on other technical matters concerning the operations of CAPSA.

21. Reports of meetings of the Technical Committee, and the Director's observations with respect thereto, shall be submitted to the Council at its next session.

22. The Chairman of the Technical Committee shall be elected by the Committee itself at each meeting.

Resources of the Centre

23. All members and associate members of ESCAP should be urged to make a regular annual contribution to the operations of the Centre. The United Nations shall administer a joint contribution trust fund in which these contributions shall be deposited.

24. The Centre will endeavour to mobilize sufficient resources to support its activities.

25. The United Nations shall maintain separate trust funds for voluntary contributions for technical cooperation projects or other extraordinary voluntary contributions for the activities of CAPSA.

26. The financial resources of CAPSA shall be administered in accordance with the United Nations Financial Regulations and Rules.

Amendments

27. Amendments to the present Statute shall be adopted by the Commission.

Matters not covered by this Statute

28. In the event of any procedural matter arising that is not covered by this Statute or rules of procedure adopted by the Governing Council under paragraph 12

of this Statute, the pertinent part of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific shall apply.

Entry into force

29. The present Statute shall enter into force on the date of its adoption by the Commission.

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