

**Economic and Social Council**Distr.: General
4 March 2019

Original: English

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**Seventy-fifth session**

Bangkok, 27–31 May 2019

Item 6 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Management issues**Programme changes for the biennium 2018–2019****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

The present document contains the proposed changes to the programme of work for the biennium 2018–2019 (A/72/6 (Sect. 19)) for which a legislative decision of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific is sought.

The proposed changes are designed mainly to address new mandates adopted after the Commission's endorsement of the programme of work for 2018–2019.

The Commission may note that the proposed changes will contribute to the achievement of the expected accomplishments and have no additional regular programme budget implications.

The Commission may wish to consider the proposed changes with a view to endorsing them for incorporation in the programme of work for 2018–2019.

* ESCAP/75/L.1.

Proposed programme changes for the biennium 2018–2019

<i>Output in the programme of work for the biennium 2018–2019</i>	<i>Proposed change</i>	<i>Justification</i>
Subprogramme 3. Transport		
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat:		
(a) Enhanced national evidence-based transport policies and programmes that are sustainable and gender-responsive		
Assistance to intergovernmental bodies and/or United Nations representatives/rapporteurs under their established mandates:		
ESCAP Sustainable Business Network – task force on trade and transport facilitation (2)	<i>Modify to:</i> ESCAP Sustainable Business Network – task force on trade and transport facilitation (1)	Based on the recommendation of the Sustainable Business Network, the Committee on Trade and Investment, at its sixth session, was informed of the closure of the task force
Subprogramme 4. Environment and development		
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat:		
(a) Enhanced evidence-based policies, strategies and frameworks that integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development, including gender perspectives, at the national level and in both urban and rural areas		
Technical materials:		
Background papers and modules on technological innovations on sustainable agriculture for rural development (2)	<i>Delete</i>	The Commission, at its seventy-fourth session, endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture on its fourteenth session ¹ and subsequently adopted resolution 74/5 ² to transform the Centre from a subsidiary body of the Commission to a new intergovernmental organization outside the United Nations system, effective by 30 June 2018. The expected achievements of the subprogramme in the relevant subject area may be downscaled.

¹ ESCAP/74/13.

² Commission resolution 74/5.

<i>Output in the programme of work for the biennium 2018–2019</i>	<i>Proposed change</i>	<i>Justification</i>
Policy briefs and working documents: regional review of the state of sustainable agriculture policy development, implementation and measurement (2)	<i>Delete</i>	See above
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat:		
(b) Improved capacity of member States and other stakeholders to integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development, including gender perspectives, into policies, strategies and frameworks at the national level and in both urban and rural areas		
Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits:		
Information services and database on sustainable agriculture for poverty reduction (2)	<i>Delete</i>	See above
<i>Palawija Forum</i> (triannual) (6)	<i>Delete</i>	See above
Training courses, seminars and workshops:		
Workshop on measuring sustainable agriculture for food security and poverty alleviation (1)	<i>Delete</i>	See above
Field projects: capacity-building projects for member States on:		
Promoting balanced integration of socioeconomic and environmental sustainability in agriculture and rural development (1)	<i>Delete</i>	See above
Strengthening policy and technological innovations for sustainable agriculture (1)	<i>Delete</i>	See above
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat:		
(c) Enhanced regional cooperation and advocacy for the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into policies, strategies and frameworks at the national level and in both urban and rural areas		
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific – parliamentary documentation:		
Reports of the Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (2018, 2019) (2)	<i>Modify to:</i> Report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (2018) (1)	See above
Assistance to intergovernmental bodies and/or United Nations representatives/rapporteurs under their established mandates:		
Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (2018, 2019) (2)	<i>Delete</i>	See above

<i>Output in the programme of work for the biennium 2018–2019</i>	<i>Proposed change</i>	<i>Justification</i>
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Subprogramme 6. Social development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat:

(a) Enhanced national evidence-based policies aimed at reducing inequalities and addressing the impact of demographic challenges, including gender perspectives

Assistance to intergovernmental bodies and/or United Nations representatives/rapporteurs under their established mandates:

ESCAP Sustainable Business Network – task force on micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and social enterprises (2)	<i>Modify to:</i> ESCAP Sustainable Business Network – task force on micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and social enterprises (1)	Based on the recommendation of the Sustainable Business Network, the Committee on Trade and Investment, at its sixth session, was informed of the closure of the task force
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Subprogramme 7. Statistics

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat:

(a) Increased institutional capacity of national statistical systems to produce, disseminate and communicate statistical products and services, in particular in relation to the goals, targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings:

Partners for Statistics Development in Asia and the Pacific (2018, 2019)	<i>Modify to:</i> Partners for Statistics Development in Asia and the Pacific (2018)	The Committee on Statistics, at its sixth session, decided to abolish the Partners for Statistics Development in Asia and the Pacific in its current form and transfer its responsibilities and functions to the Thematic Working Group on Statistics of the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism, ³ with an aim to extend the impact of the Partners to deliver effective coordination of statistical development and avoid duplication with other inter-agency mechanisms. The deletion of this output will not affect the overall implementation of the programme of work by the subprogramme and achievement of the expected accomplishment.
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³ ESCAP/CST/2018/6.