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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Committee on Environment and Development

Fourth session

Bangkok, 11-13 November 2015

Annotated provisional agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Committee on Environment and Development (section I) and the annotations thereto (section II).

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Transformation for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific: review of emerging regional trends and agenda-setting.
5. Outcomes of key regional dialogues on sustainable development:
 - (a) First session of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development;
 - (b) Second session of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development;
 - (c) Sixth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum;
 - (d) High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting to Habitat III for Asia-Pacific;
 - (e) 2014 policy dialogue on energy for sustainable development for Asia and the Pacific;
 - (f) Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development;
 - (g) Workshop on water and green growth in Asia and the Pacific to prepare regional inputs for the Seventh World Water Forum.
6. Preparations for the seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 16 September 2015.

7. Consideration of draft resolutions, recommendations and decisions for submission to the Commission at its seventy-second session.
8. Consideration of the future focus of the subprogramme.
9. Other matters.
10. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

1. Opening of the session

Documentation

Tentative programme (E/ESCAP/CED(4)/INF/3)

Annotation

The programme for the opening of the session will be announced in due course.

2. Election of officers

Documentation

List of participants (E/ESCAP/CED(4)/INF/2)

Annotation

A chair, vice-chair(s) and rapporteur will be elected for the session.

3. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda (E/ESCAP/CED(4)/L.1)

Annotation

The annotated provisional agenda will be considered and adopted by the Committee, subject to such changes as may be deemed necessary.

4. Transformation for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific: review of emerging regional trends and agenda-setting

Documentation

Transformation for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific: review of emerging regional trends and agenda-setting (E/ESCAP/CED(4)/1)

Annotation

In the final draft of the outcome document for the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit, to be held in New York from 25 to 27 September 2015, the interlinkages within and the integrated nature of sustainable development is recognized. On the basis of this integrated perspective, in the proposed sustainable development agenda, the political

commitment to address the persistent challenges related to sustainable development for all, in particular in developing countries, is reaffirmed. Also emphasized is the strategic role of the regional commissions in promoting regional cooperation for effective implementation of the proposed sustainable development goals by promoting a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, forging a regional voice on the global agenda, facilitating multi-stakeholder partnerships and supporting South-South cooperation. In this context, a regional roadmap could be facilitated by regional commissions. Such a road map could address the means of implementation, the strengthening of institutional frameworks and the capacity for integration of the above-mentioned three dimensions, as well as the establishment of a platform for policy dialogue and the exchange of best practices. Supported by a research agenda, such a road map could provide important guidance to member States in the implementation of the proposed agenda.

In support of the regional implementation of the sustainable development goals, in document E/ESCAP/CED(4)/1, the secretariat provides an overview of emerging and persistent trends and issues in areas of critical importance to the Asian and Pacific region, in particular in relation to environmental sustainability, climate change mitigation and adaptation, energy security, water resource management and sustainable urban development. Forward-looking strategies are also presented in response to the current and projected challenges in the regional implementation of the proposed sustainable development agenda. In the context of the secretariat's continued commitment to supporting dialogue among member States, the document also provides an outline of priority actions on regional agenda-setting vis-à-vis the proposed agenda.

5. Outcomes of key regional dialogues on sustainable development

- (a) First session of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development**
- (b) Second session of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development**
- (c) Sixth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum**
- (d) High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting to Habitat III for Asia-Pacific**
- (e) 2014 policy dialogue on energy for sustainable development for Asia and the Pacific**
- (f) Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development**
- (g) Workshop on water and green growth in Asia and the Pacific to prepare regional inputs for the Seventh World Water Forum**

Documentation

Outcomes of the first and second sessions of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (E/ESCAP/CED(4)/INF/4)

Outcomes of the sixth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum and the High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting to Habitat III for Asia-Pacific (E/ESCAP/CED(4)/INF/5)

Conclusions and recommendations of the 2014 policy dialogue on energy for sustainable development for Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/CED(4)/INF/6)

Report on the joint statement of the Executive Secretaries of the United Nations Regional Commissions for the Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development (E/ESCAP/CED(4)/INF/7)

Experiences on water and green growth in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/CED(4)/INF/8)

Annotation

During the session, the secretariat will present the key outcomes of the first session of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, held in Pattaya, Thailand from 19 to 21 May 2014, and the second session of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, held in Bangkok on 21 and 22 May 2015.

The secretariat will provide information on the key outcomes from the sixth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum, which will be held back-to-back with the High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting to Habitat III for Asia-Pacific in Indonesia from 19 to 22 October 2015.

The secretariat will also present key conclusions and recommendations of the 2014 policy dialogue on energy for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, which was held in Bangkok from 26 to 28 November 2014, and the joint statement of the Executive Secretaries of the United Nations Regional Commissions released at the Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, held in Hammamet, Tunisia from 4 to 7 November 2014.

The Committee may wish to review the documents and provide its guidance.

6. Preparations for the seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific

Member States are invited to reflect on the future role and function of the Ministerial Conference in regard to new mandates given to the secretariat relating to the proposed agenda for sustainable development.

7. Consideration of draft resolutions, recommendations and decisions for submission to the Commission at its seventy-second session

Under this agenda item, member States may wish to circulate, in advance, proposals and/or texts of draft resolutions on priority issues related to environment and development for consideration by the Commission at its seventy-second session.

8. Consideration of the future focus of the subprogramme

Under this agenda item, the Committee may wish to provide guidance on the focus of the short- and longer-term work of the secretariat on environment and development, taking into account the transformative nature of the post-2015 framework for sustainable development as well as the programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 and in preparation for the strategic framework for 2018-2019.

9. Other matters

The Committee may wish to consider other matters not addressed under the items mentioned above.

10. Adoption of the report

Documentation

Draft report (E/ESCAP/CED(4)/L.2)

Annotation

The Committee will consider and adopt the report on its fourth session for submission to the Commission at its seventy-second session, in 2016.
