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## Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction

### Fifth session

Bangkok, 10-12 October 2017

## Annotated provisional agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction (section I) and the annotations to the provisional agenda (section II).

### I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Disaster risk reduction and resilience in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
5. “Delivering as one” for disaster risk reduction and resilience.
6. Regional mechanisms for multi-hazard early warning systems.
7. Disaster risk transfer mechanisms.
8. Space applications for disaster risk reduction.
9. Implementation of the programme of work of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management.
10. Consideration of possible draft resolutions for submission to the Commission at its seventy-fourth session.
11. Other matters.
12. Adoption of the report.

### II. Annotations

#### 1. Opening of the session

The programme for the opening of the session will be announced in due course and will be available online at [www.unescap.org/events/committee-disaster-risk-reduction-fifth-session](http://www.unescap.org/events/committee-disaster-risk-reduction-fifth-session).

**2. Election of officers**

The list of participants will be available online at [www.unescap.org/events/committee-disaster-risk-reduction-fifth-session](http://www.unescap.org/events/committee-disaster-risk-reduction-fifth-session).

The Committee will elect a chair and a vice-chair for the session.

**3. Adoption of the agenda**

**Documentation**

Annotated provisional agenda (E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/L.1)

**Annotation**

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

**4. Disaster risk reduction and resilience in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

**Documentation**

Disaster risk reduction and resilience in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/1)

Preparation of the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2020-2021 (E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/INF/1)

**Annotation**

Reducing disaster risk and building resilience are interrelated themes in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, Paris Agreement, the Agenda for Humanity, the New Urban Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. Furthermore, in a letter to the permanent representatives of the States Members of the United Nations outlining a vision on prevention, the Secretary-General stated that climate-related natural disasters were becoming more frequent and their destructive powers more intense and that a risk-informed development strategy was an integral part of sustaining peace and achieving the 2030 Agenda. At the regional level, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), at its seventy-third session, adopted the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, while in November 2016, the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction adopted the New Delhi declaration on disaster risk reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2016 and the Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

This convergence offers unprecedented opportunities to mainstream disaster risk reduction across various sectors of development. It also demands deliberate synchronization of policy actions and regional coordination to achieve greater coherence in implementing these frameworks.

In Commission resolution 73/7 on enhancing regional cooperation for the implementation of the Sendai Framework in Asia and the Pacific, member States requested the Executive Secretary to accord priority to synchronizing

multi-disciplinary support to them in the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in their development strategies.

The Committee is invited to consider the issues highlighted in E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/1 and deliberate on policy actions to ensure coherence in operationalizing disaster risk reduction and resilience in response to the 2030 Agenda and the Sendai Framework. The Committee is also invited to provide the secretariat with guidance on further implementation of Commission resolution 73/7, in the context of its preparations for the proposed strategic framework and programme of work for the biennium 2020-2021. Process and timelines are outlined in E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/INF/1.

## **5. “Delivering as one” for disaster risk reduction and resilience**

### **Documentation**

Thematic Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience of the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism: implemented activities and future direction (E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/INF/2)

### **Annotation**

The Committee will have before it information note E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/INF/2 in which the implemented activities and future direction of the work of the Thematic Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience of the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism, co-chaired by ESCAP, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the United Nations Development Programme, are reviewed. In resolution 73/9 on the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific, the Commission requested the Executive Secretary, as convener of the Regional Coordination Mechanism, to strengthen collaboration among the relevant organizations of the United Nations system.

Within the overall context of the Secretary General’s vision on prevention and the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development, as well as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Joint Strategic Plan of Action on Disaster Management, the Committee is invited to consider the issues presented in E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/INF/2 and provide guidance on furthering cooperation and policy-level coherence among United Nations entities and regional associations.

## **6. Regional mechanisms for multi-hazard early warning systems**

### **Documentation**

Strengthening regional mechanisms for multi-hazard early warning systems (E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/2)

### **Annotation**

Multi-hazard early warning systems offer opportunities to address the goals and targets related to disaster risk reduction and resilience of the 2030 Agenda and related agreements. Recognizing its important integrative role, and in accordance with Commission resolution 73/7, ESCAP accords priority to the implementation of regional approaches for multi-hazard early warning systems.

Document E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/2 provides an overview of the progress made in the Commission's ongoing initiatives to strengthen regional cooperation mechanisms for early warning of multiple hazards, including the work being done under the aegis of the ESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries. The Committee is invited to provide the secretariat with guidance on advancing the latter's work on strengthening the regional component of the World Meteorological Organization-led International Network for Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems and the Regional Cooperative Mechanism for Drought Monitoring and Early Warning, as well as guidance on increasing coherence between the regional climate outlook forums and national monsoon forums, in the context of the preparations by the secretariat for the proposed strategic framework and programme of work for the biennium 2020-2021.

## **7. Disaster risk transfer mechanisms**

### **Documentation**

Disaster risk transfer mechanisms: issues and considerations for the Asia-Pacific region (E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/3)

### **Annotation**

In the Sendai Framework, the promotion of mechanisms for disaster risk transfer and insurance, risk-sharing and retention to reduce the financial impacts of disasters is emphasized. Parametric insurance has emerged as a practical strategy for transferring residual risk and enhancing a country's ability to manage the fiscal burden of disasters. However, considering the lack of regulatory mechanisms and insurance culture in some countries in the region, it requires considerable capacity-building.

At the High-level Dialogue on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration for Enhancing Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, which was held in Bangkok on 20 and 21 April 2017, member States recommended that ESCAP establish a mechanism to provide the analytical infrastructure for peer learning and that this should be considered as an important agenda item of the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction.

The Committee is invited to consider the options and opportunities outlined in E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/3 and provide guidance to the secretariat in the context of its preparations for the proposed strategic framework and programme of work for the biennium 2020-2021.

## **8. Space applications for disaster risk reduction**

### **Documentation**

Promoting regional cooperation on the applications of space technology and geographic information systems for effective disaster risk reduction (E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/INF/3)

### **Annotation**

In its implementation of Commission resolution 73/7, the secretariat has continued to accord priority to the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action for Applications of Space Technology and Geographic Information Systems for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development, 2012-

2017, in promoting regional cooperation on space applications for the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

Such efforts are also in accordance with resolution 69/11 on the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action. Given that the Plan of Action will end in 2017, and pursuant to a recommendation of the twentieth session of the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development, a draft plan of action on space applications in Asia-Pacific (2018-2030), which will outline how space applications can be used to achieve the Sendai Framework targets and the Sustainable Development Goals, is under development, in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

The Committee is invited to consider the information note and provide further guidance on the evolving draft in the context of disaster risk management and the preparations by the secretariat for the proposed strategic framework and programme of work for the biennium 2020-2021.

**9. Implementation of the programme of work of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management**

**Documentation**

Report on the progress of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management on its programme of work (E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/4)

**Annotation**

The Committee will be apprised of the progress made in operationalizing the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management and its programme of work, as well as the secretariat's progress on the implementation of Commission resolution 72/7 on regional cooperation to combat sand and dust storms in Asia and the Pacific.

The Committee is invited to provide further guidance on the implementation of the programme of work of the Centre as well as on its future focus and activities.

**10. Consideration of possible draft resolutions for submission to the Commission at its seventy-fourth session**

Under this agenda item, member States may wish to circulate, in advance, proposals and/or texts of draft resolutions on priority issues relating to disaster risk reduction for consideration by the Commission at its seventy-fourth session, in 2018.

**11. Other matters**

The Committee may wish to consider other matters brought to its attention.

**12. Adoption of the report**

**Documentation**

Draft report (E/ESCAP/CDR(5)/L.2)

**Annotation**

The Committee will be invited to consider and adopt the report on its fifth session for submission to the Commission at its seventy-fourth session, in 2018.

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