



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on the New ESCAP Subregional Offices
for East and North-East Asia, North and Central Asia,
and South and South-West Asia

2-4 March 2010
Bangkok

**SHORT- AND MEDIUM-TERM WORK PROGRAMMES FOR THE
SUBREGIONAL OFFICES: PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE
BIENNIUM 2010-2011**

(Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda)

**PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE NEW ESCAP SUBREGIONAL OFFICES
FOR THE BIENNIUM 2010-2011**

Note by the secretariat

The present document contains the proposed programme of work for 2010-2011 in respect of subprogramme 8, Subregional activities for development. Only components 2, 3 and 4 of subprogramme 8 are of relevance to the meeting.

The Commission at its sixty-fifth session, in April 2009, endorsed the draft programme of work of ESCAP for the biennium 2010-2011,¹ including the section relating to the three subregions. The approved programme of work for each subregion includes an ad hoc intergovernmental meeting and related parliamentary reports, knowledge sharing on economic and social development policies and good practices, and field projects to address subregional development needs. In the case of East and North-East Asia and North and Central Asia, the programme of work also includes substantive support to the relevant subregional programmes, namely the North East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation and the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia.²

The meeting may wish to provide the secretariat with guidance, drawing on the outcome of deliberations under item 4 of the provisional agenda, to further refine the programme of work for 2010-2011, with a view to reflecting a shared vision of the priority needs of the respective subregions.

* The late submission of the present document is due to the exhaustive consultative process undertaken by the working group on subregional offices, which is comprised of ESCAP senior managers, in order to develop the agenda and scope for the meeting.

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 19* (E/2009/39-E/ESCAP/65/32), para. 180.

² See A/64/6 (Sect. 18), paras. 18.91, 18.95 and 18.99.

PROGRAMME OF WORK, 2010-2011

Subprogramme 8. Subregional activities for development

Introduction

The Office of the Executive Secretary is responsible for coordinating the implementation of work of the subprogramme, with support from the existing ESCAP subregional office for the Pacific (EPOC) and three subregional offices in East and North-East Asia, North and Central Asia, and South and South-West Asia. The programme of work has been formulated by drawing upon subprogramme 8 of programme 15 of the strategic framework for the period 2010-2011.³

Objective for the biennium, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement

Component 1

Subregional activities for development in the Pacific

Objective of the Organization: To promote inclusive and sustainable development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, focusing on the specific priorities of ESCAP member States in the Pacific

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement economic and social development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in the Pacific	(a) Increased percentage of participants who indicate that they found ESCAP activities relevant and useful in formulating and implementing policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in the Pacific
(b) Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in the Pacific to support the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals	(b) (i) Increased number of collaborative initiatives involving member States, civil society or other key development partners from the Pacific facilitated by ESCAP (ii) Increased number of partner institutions from the Pacific participating in knowledge-sharing platforms that are managed by ESCAP

Outputs:

During the biennium 2010-2011, the following final outputs will be delivered:

Expected Accomplishment (a): Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement economic and social development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in the Pacific

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific:

³ A/63/6 (Prog. 15), as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/247 of 24 December 2008.

- a. Parliamentary documentation: report on policy and programme options to address emerging economic and social development issues in Pacific island developing countries (1) (2010).
- (ii) Ad hoc expert groups: Regional review of the progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (1) (2010); Review of policy options to address emerging development issues in the Pacific (1) (2011);
- (b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):
 - (i) Recurrent publications: *Pacific Perspectives* (1) (2011).

Expected Accomplishment (b): Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in the Pacific with the goal of supporting the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

- (a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):
 - (i) Technical material: Web page of the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre <<http://www.unescap.org/EPOC/>> (2) (2010, 2011);
- (b) Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary):
 - (i) Field project: Pacific island knowledge e-centre on economic and social policy development and programme implementation (1) (2010-2011); building partnerships to support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals among Pacific island developing countries, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (1) (2010-2011).

Component 2

Subregional activities for development in East and North-East Asia

Objective of the Organization: To promote inclusive and sustainable development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, focusing on the specific priorities of ESCAP member States in East and North-East Asia

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement economic and social development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in East and North-East Asia	(a) Increased percentage of participants who indicate that they found ESCAP activities relevant and useful in formulating and implementing policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in East and North-East Asia
(b) Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States,	(b) (i) Increased number of collaborative initiatives involving member States, civil

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in East and North-East Asia to support the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals	<p>society or other key development partners from East and North-East Asia facilitated by ESCAP</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of partner institutions from East and North-East Asia participating in knowledge-sharing platforms that are managed by ESCAP</p>

Outputs:

During the biennium 2010-2011, the following final outputs will be delivered:

Expected Accomplishment (a): Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement economic and social development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in East and North-East Asia

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

- (i) Ad hoc intergovernmental meeting for East and North-East Asia:
 - a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary (4) (2010);
 - b. Parliamentary documentation: report on policy and programme options to address emerging economic and social development issues in East and North-East Asia (1 in 2010); report of the ad hoc intergovernmental meeting on economic and social development policy and programme priorities for East and North-East Asia (1 in 2010);
- (ii) Assistance to representatives, rapporteurs: North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) (2) (2010, 2011).

Expected Accomplishment (b): Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in East and North-East Asia with the goal of supporting the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

(a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

- (i) Technical material: Web page on knowledge-sharing on economic and social development policy and good practices in East and North-East Asia (2) (2010, 2011);
- (b) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):
 - (i) Field project: Building partnerships to support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in countries of East and North-East Asia (1) (2010-2011); capacity-building for government officials in East and North-East Asia in key development sectors: statistics; environment; energy; and infrastructure development (1) (2010-2011).

Component 3
Subregional activities for development in North and Central Asia

Objective of the Organization: To promote inclusive and sustainable development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, focusing on the specific priorities of ESCAP member States in North and Central Asia

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement economic and social development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in North and Central Asia	(a) Increased percentage of participants who indicate that they found ESCAP activities relevant and useful in formulating and implementing policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in North and Central Asia
(b) Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in North and Central Asia to support the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals	(b) (i) Increased number of collaborative initiatives involving member States, civil society or other key development partners from North and Central Asia facilitated by ESCAP (ii) Increased number of partner institutions from North and Central Asia participating in knowledge-sharing platforms that are managed by ESCAP

Outputs:

During the biennium 2010-2011, the following final outputs will be delivered:

Expected Accomplishment (a): Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement economic and social development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in North and Central Asia

- (a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):
- (i) Ad hoc intergovernmental meeting for North and Central Asia:
 - a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary (4) (2010);
 - b. Parliamentary documentation: report on policy and programme options to address emerging economic and social development issues in North and Central Asia (1 in 2010); report of the ad hoc intergovernmental meeting on economic and social development policy and programme priorities for North and Central Asia (1 in 2010).
 - (ii) Assistance to representatives, rapporteurs: Governing Council of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) in collaboration with ECE (2) (2010-2011).

Expected Accomplishment (b): Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in North and Central Asia with the goal of supporting the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

(a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

- (i) Technical material: Web page on knowledge-sharing on economic and social development policy and good practices in North and Central Asia (2) (2010, 2011);

(b) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

- (i) Field project: Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries (1) (2010-2011); ESCAP-ECE joint implementation of the Special Programme for Economies in Central Asia (SPECA) Cooperation Strategy to Promote the Rational and Effective Use of Water and Energy Resources (1) (2010-2011).

Component 4

Subregional activities for development in South and South-West Asia

Objective of the Organization: To promote inclusive and sustainable development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, focusing on the specific priorities of ESCAP member States in South and South-West Asia

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement economic and social development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in South and South-West Asia	(a) Increased percentage of participants who indicate that they found ESCAP activities relevant and useful in formulating and implementing policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in South and South-West Asia
(b) Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners in addressing key priority areas in South and South-West Asia to support the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals	(b) (i) Increased number of collaborative initiatives involving member States and civil society or other key development partners from South and South-West Asia facilitated by ESCAP (ii) Increased number of partner institutions from South and South-West Asia participating in knowledge-sharing platforms that are managed by ESCAP

Outputs:

During the biennium 2010-2011, the following final outputs will be delivered:

Expected Accomplishment (a): Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement economic and social development policies and programmes,

including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in South and South-West Asia

- (a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):
 - (i) Ad hoc intergovernmental meeting for South and South-West Asia:
 - a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary (4) (2010);
 - b. Parliamentary documentation: report on policy and programme options to address emerging economic and social development issues in South and South-West Asia (1 in 2010); report of the ad hoc intergovernmental meeting on economic and social development policy and programme priorities for South and South-West Asia (1 in 2010).

Expected Accomplishment (b): Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners in addressing key priority areas in South and South-West Asia with the goal of supporting the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

- (a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):
 - (i) Technical material: Web page on knowledge-sharing on economic and social development policy and good practices in South and South-West Asia (2) (2010, 2011);
- (b) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):
 - (i) Field project: Building partnerships to support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in countries of South and South-West Asia (1) (2010-2011).

Component 5 Subregional activities for development in South-East Asia

Objective of the Organization: To promote inclusive and sustainable development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, focusing on the specific priorities of ESCAP member States in South-East Asia

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement economic and social development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in South-East Asia	(a) Increased percentage of participants who indicate that they found ESCAP activities relevant and useful in formulating and implementing policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in South-East Asia
(b) Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners in addressing key priority areas in South-East Asia in support of the achievement	(b) (i) Increased number of collaborative initiatives involving member States, civil society or other key development partners from South-East Asia facilitated by ESCAP

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals	(ii) Increased number of partner institutions from South-East Asia participating in knowledge-sharing platforms that are managed by ESCAP

Outputs:

During the biennium 2010-2011, the following final outputs will be delivered:

Expected Accomplishment (a): Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement economic and social development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in South-East Asia

(a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

- (i) Contribution to joint outputs:
 - a. Report on economic and social challenges facing ASEAN countries (2) (2010, 2011).

Expected Accomplishment (b): Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners in addressing key priority areas in South-East Asia with the goal of supporting the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

(a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

- (i) Technical material: Web page on knowledge-sharing on economic and social development policy and good practices in South-East Asia (2) (2010, 2011);

(b) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

- (i) Field projects: Building partnerships for Millennium Development Goal achievement in South-East Asia (1) (2010-2011); good practices for multi-hazard early warning systems (1) (2010-2011); South-South cooperation mechanisms for disaster risk reduction (1) (2010-2011).

Strategy

20. The overall responsibility for coordinating the work of the subprogramme would lie with the Office of the Executive Secretary, with support for the implementation of activities from the existing ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre and three subregional offices in East and North-East Asia, North and Central Asia and South and South-West Asia, the establishment of which has been approved by the General Assembly through the adoption of its resolution 63/260 of 24 December 2008. This subprogramme aims to ensure that the specific priority concerns of all five ESCAP subregions are effectively and equitably addressed.

21. The mandate and strategic direction of the subprogramme are mainly derived from the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Almaty Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy on the sustainable development of small island developing States.

22. Given the vast coverage and diversity of the Asian and Pacific region, the subprogramme would strengthen the Commission's presence and interventions at the subregional level, enabling better targeting and delivery of programmes that address specific key priorities, including poverty reduction and sustainable development, of member States in the respective subregions. The subprogramme would provide more focused and in-depth technical assistance to address key development challenges, including capacity-building activities, through the provision, on request, of advisory services, the organization of training workshops and the implementation of field projects.

23. The subprogramme would serve as a catalyst to operationalize the analytical and normative work of ESCAP at the subregional and national levels. Knowledge-sharing and networking, including the dissemination of good practices for adaptation, experience sharing and replication, will be emphasized. A central part of the strategy would be to enhance partnerships with other United Nations agencies, as well as other development partners, including civil society, at the subregional and national levels, in order to support the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

External factors

24. The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) key partners are willing to provide information and cooperate in joint programmes; (b) adequate extrabudgetary resources are mobilized to ensure the necessary outreach and depth of technical cooperation activities; and (c) member States in the subregion make available ICT infrastructure and facilities in support of subregional knowledge-sharing.

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