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### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

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### ACTIVITIES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES DESIGNATED BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

(Item 8 of the provisional agenda)

### **REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES DESIGNATED BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION**

Addendum

**Introduction** 

1. The present document is an addendum to the report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (ACPR) on its activities (E/ESCAP/1384). It covers the activities of ACPR during the period from January to March 2006. During this period, ACPR held three regular sessions (two hundred and ninety-ninth to three hundred and first) and one informal session, as well as four meetings of its informal working group on draft resolutions.

2. At its three regular sessions, ACPR discussed the following topics:

(a) Preparations for the sixty-second session of the Commission, including review of draft resolutions, the schedule of meetings and side events;

(b) Progress report on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the Commission at its sixty-first and previous sessions on which there were important developments to report;

 (c) Report on the outcome of the second session of the Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (CAPSA), Bogor, 26-27 January 2006;

(d) Preparations for and report on the outcome of the first session of the GoverningCouncil of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT), Colombo, 8-9February 2006;

(e) Programme performance report for 2004-2005;

(f) Preparations for the strategic framework for 2008-2009;

(g) Consideration of the date, venue and theme topic for the sixty-third session of the Commission;

(h) Proposed calendar of ESCAP meetings and training programmes, January-December 2006;

(i) Briefing on ongoing ESCAP initiatives.

3. At the informal session held on 24 January 2006, ACPR reviewed the proposals for revitalizing ACPR. At informal working group meetings, ACPR considered draft resolutions for submission to the Commission at its sixty-second session. Further, the practice of following up on ACPR recommendations was continued and reported under the agenda item "Other matters".

#### Preparations for the sixty-second session of the Commission

4. The secretariat briefed ACPR on the preparations for the sixty-second session of the Commission, including the draft resolutions to be submitted, preparations for the Senior Officials' and

Ministerial Segments, the informal consultation with least developed and landlocked developing countries, the informal consultation on economies in transition, and side events, in particular those relating to the Asia-Pacific Business Forum, the Millennium Development Goals and the gender dimensions of international migration. ACPR was also informed of the Pacific Leaders' United Nations ESCAP Special Session (PLUS) and the Ministerial Round Table on Enhancing Regional Cooperation in Infrastructure Development, including that related to Disaster Management, to be held under the Ministerial Segment.

5. ACPR was also briefed on the preparations for the ninth session of the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries, to be held in Jakarta on 4 and 5 April 2006, immediately preceding the sixty-second session of the Commission.

### Preparations for the sixty-third session of the Commission

6. ACPR was informed of the proposed tentative dates for the sixty-third session of the Commission, to be held in Bangkok, and considered potential theme topics for the session.

## <u>Progress report on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the Commission at its sixty-first and previous sessions on which there were important developments to report</u>

7. ACPR reviewed and commented on the progress made in implementing the 12 resolutions adopted by the Commission at its sixty-first session, held in Bangkok from 12 to 18 May 2005, as well as resolutions adopted at previous sessions of the Commission. ACPR made suggestions for integrating the activities mandated in the resolutions into the ESCAP programme of work.

# Report on the outcome of the second session of the Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (CAPSA), Bogor, 26-27 January 2006

8. The secretariat reported to ACPR that the Governing Council of CAPSA had reviewed the Centre's activities in 2005 and its work programme for 2006. ACPR was also informed that resource mobilization needed to be diversified, research staffing strengthened, relations with partner institutes intensified and nominations for the Governing Council elections submitted.

### Preparations for and report on the outcome of the first session of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT), Colombo, 8-9 February 2006

9. ACPR members were notified that the venue for the Governing Council of APCTT had been changed from Lahore, Pakistan, to Colombo, owing to the devastating earthquake. ACPR was briefed on the activities of APCTT for the biennium 2004-2005 and proposed projects/programmes for the biennium 2006-2007.

### Programme performance report for 2004-2005

10. The secretariat provided ACPR with a summary of the programme performance report for the biennium 2004-2005. The report provided the consolidated results of the activities undertaken and lessons learned under each of the seven ESCAP subprogrammes: subprogramme 1. Poverty and development; subprogramme 2. Statistics; subprogramme 3. Trade and investment; subprogramme 4. Transport and tourism; subprogramme 5. Environment and sustainable development; subprogramme 6. Information, communication and space technology; and subprogramme 7. Social development, including emerging social issues. Two additional requirements had been introduced in the report: a new chapter on challenges, obstacles and unmet goals and a report on Executive direction and management.

### Preparations for the strategic framework for 2008-2009

11. ACPR was informed that, as a result of the 2005 World Summit Outcome<sup>1</sup> and pending review of mandates by the General Assembly, the instructions for the preparation of the strategic framework for 2008-2009 would be delayed. In place of the full framework, an overview document would be submitted to the Commission at its sixty-second session (E/ESCAP/1376 and Corr.1).

#### Briefing on ongoing ESCAP initiatives

12. ACPR was provided with two monthly briefings on ongoing ESCAP initiatives. A film on the October 2005 earthquake in Pakistan was screened and potential cooperation with international partners for post-disaster assistance was discussed. ACPR was presented with the outcome of the Regional Implementation Meeting for Asia and the Pacific, which had been organized by ESCAP in Bangkok on 19 and 20 January 2006 for the fourteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, to be held in May 2006.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See General Assembly resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005.