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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

REPORT

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BEIRUT, 26-27 OCTOBER 2009

Summary

The seventh session of the Committee on Social Development was held in Beirut on 26 and 27 October 2009.

Included on the agenda of the session were items related to the progress achieved in carrying out social development-related activities under the programme of work of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) since the sixth session of the Committee as well as the proposed programme of work for the 2010-2011 biennium in the field of social development.

The agenda also included the review of a set of reports on priority issues in the field of social development in the ESCWA region, focusing principally on social integration, participatory social development and youth in development policies.

This report contains a brief account of the main issues raised during the discussions and the measures recommended by the Committee in respect of each item of the agenda.

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Introduction

1. The seventh session of the Committee on Social Development was held pursuant to Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) resolution 198 (XVII) of 31 May 1994, concerning the establishment of a committee on social development in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which was endorsed by the United Nations Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1994/27 of 26 July 1994, and pursuant to the recommendations of the sixth session of the Committee on Social Development held in Amman, from 5 to 7 March 2007, which were adopted by ESCWA at its twenty-fifth session held in Sana'a from 26 to 29 May 2008.
2. This report outlines the main issues discussed and measures recommended by the Committee in respect of each agenda item, without going into details. The Committee unanimously adopted the report at its final session, which was held on 27 October 2009.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN ITS SEVENTH SESSION

3. The Committee on Social Development recommended the enhancement and development of the capacity of member countries to design and implement public policies, the adoption of integrated social policy approach, espousal of participation between Governments, civil society organizations, private sector and the media, and reaffirming the integration of social development sectors and the interlinkage of plans, programmes and projects, through the following measures:

(a) Promoting and developing consultation mechanisms on integrated social policy, and creating conditions enabling institutional capacity-building and exchange of expertise to implementation of this policy, and the preparation of analytical studies on social exclusion and support programmes for social integration;

(b) Promoting the use of ESCWA programmes to build institutional and individual capacities in participatory development, and encouraging the expansion of frames and fields of application in local development, supporting the ensuing mechanisms for dialogue and coordination, and partnership between Governments, civil society organizations, the private sector and media in policy processes and in the development of plans, programmes and projects;

(c) Building and strengthening national capacities in the formulation and monitoring of national policies aimed at youth, within the framework of priorities set out in international conventions, specifically the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) and its supplements;

(d) Building and enhancing capacities of member States to formulate and implement policies to ensure more equitable distribution of urban services, including shelter, water supply, sanitation, education and health, as well as providing better jobs to meet the growing needs in the region;

(e) Preparing periodical reports on participation or other priority social issues presented by member States to the Committee on Social Development to highlight the role of social actors and capabilities required to enhance this role and exchange of experience and expertise thereon.

II. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

A. PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN CARRYING OUT SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT-RELATED ACTIVITIES UNDER ESCWA PROGRAMME OF WORK SINCE THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (Item 4 of the agenda)

4. The Committee included the item of progress achieved in the implementation of activities related to social development on the agenda of its seventh session, to inform representatives of member States of the work undertaken by ESCWA in this field, and to provide the opportunity to discuss these topics, express opinions on such issues and other matters related to social development. The Committee examined this item on the basis of document E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/3 which included an explanation of what has been implemented in the areas of social development since the sixth session of the Committee. The activities were divided up as set forth below:

(a) *Social Policy Section*

5. The Social Policy Section work focused on articulating a common understanding of the integrated social policy, and support to Governments in developing social policy frameworks and instruments that promote social justice and pro-poor policies through the following: (i) urging Governments to adopt integrated social policy approaches ensuring social equity in decision making; (ii) assisting Governments in developing a national vision of social policy through an open dialogue with relevant stakeholders; (iii) cooperating with member countries in analysing gaps and challenges of social policies and devising policies based on regional and international best practices; and (iv) identifying appropriate instruments that allow for successful institutionalization and monitoring of social policy. The section's activities focused on achieving its targets as to holding national and regional conventions and expert group meetings, as well as preparing reports, studies and analytical and field researches.

(b) *Social Participatory Development Section*

6. The Social Participatory Development Section work aimed at building and developing institutional and individual capacities, and enabling participation in public policy formulation, including social policy, according to the following themes: (i) developing an integrated approach for social participatory development, issuing practical guidelines for intervention initiatives and organizing related activities once they have been revised in the light of remarks made by users; (ii) promoting those guidelines through capacity-building programmes and training modules that meet the needs of such participants as Government institutions, civil society organizations, private sector, and local leaders, and comply with the technical advice requirements; (iii) organizing workshops and round tables at the national and regional levels aimed at promoting knowledge frameworks or supporting coordination mechanisms/networks, activate all dynamic levels and aspects of participation and launch serious interactive dialogue; (iv) publishing studies, reports and publications that promote exchange of experience in order to support the integration of various levels of development, follow-up capabilities and possibilities of participation in policies and programmes, and assess the achievements; and (v) providing technical advice to Governments of member States and civil society organization to support local development programmes, and enhance participation in their operations and expand their contribution to public policies.

(c) *Population and Social Development Section*

7. The Population and Social Development Section work focused on: (i) promoting awareness of modern approaches on policies aiming at such specific population groups as youth, the elderly, working age population through conferences, seminars and meetings of experts; (ii) building capacities in the field of demographic analysis and formulation of integrated policies that link population dynamics to the development process, through capacity-building programmes in the field of demographic analysis and in response to WPAY; (iii) strengthening national capacities in the management of international migration

within the framework of developmental policies, through issuance of studies, reports and publications; (iv) monitoring the progress of Arab States in the implementation of programmes of action adopted by international conventions including the 2000 WPAY, Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, and United Nations Millennium Declaration, 2000; and (v) disseminating knowledge and exchanging information related to population and development.

(d) *Social Policy in the City Team*

8. The Social Policy in the City Team work continued during the period 2008-2009 in studying urbanization in the ESCWA region through the following activities: (i) issuing studies and reports; and (ii) convening expert group meetings aimed at developing the concept of urban observatories and enhancing their work.

9. The team submitted under this item a set of observations, including the following:

- (i) The need to follow up the progress made with regard to the integrated social policy project launched in Bahrain in 2006, in order to enhance the Bahraini initiative and efforts in the field of social development;
- (ii) Provide support to Palestine in presenting an action plan and appropriate mechanisms to implement recommendations and conclusions presented by the integrated social policy report prepared by the Palestinian Government in cooperation with ESCWA. Moreover, providing technical support to integrate sectoral strategy within an integrated and comprehensive strategy that meets development requirements and priorities in Palestine;
- (iii) Acknowledge the efforts of ESCWA in the field of social participatory development and the valuable programmes and services offered to Yemen in this area, as they enrich the work of institutions concerned with social development and social protection programmes, and lead to enhanced coordination between programmes and projects that maximize the returns of the beneficiaries;
- (iv) Emphasize the importance of ESCWA continuing its efforts in providing programmes to support institutional and individual capacities in the provision of developmental knowledge and culture, empowering member States to address poverty, enhance stability, advance the status of women and activate the participation of civil society organizations, private sector and the media in social development. Define appropriate standards to monitor the progress made in various areas of development, and provide more opportunities for exchanging experience and expertise as well as lessons learned from public policies and developmental initiatives, programmes and projects, in addition to preparing reports on the progress made.

B. FOLLOW-UP ON PRIORITY ISSUES IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
IN THE ESCWA REGION
(Item 5 of the agenda)

1. *Social inclusion*

10. The Committee on Social Development examined this item on the basis of report E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/4(Part I), which reviews social integration policies for specific social groups, considered necessary to complete poverty alleviation strategies, and thereby promote more equitable patterns of human development. The report examines the main characteristics of social exclusion, notably discrimination, deprivation and disempowerment. It draws upon field work conducted by ESCWA in selected countries, and identifies positive initiatives to tackle social exclusion in those countries. The report also discusses the issue of social exclusion within a particular group, as a static state or a dynamic social process. In the case of social exclusion, which is considered a manifestation of inequality among communities and institutions, one policy option is raised in this case to address the phenomena of inequality.

The ultimate aim of the report is to provide policymakers with a broad understanding of the needs and challenges facing excluded groups, and propose policy options that could be integrated into national development planning. Finally, the report indicates that devising social inclusion policies is critical to combat social exclusion problems, but the final decision regarding the formulation of such policy rests with national Governments.

11. Discussions covered the following issues:

(a) The limitations in the provision of information and lack of accuracy and availability at a large scale are real constraints in understanding the phenomenon of marginalization and examining its dimensions and the scope of its effects on the concerned parties and groups, which adversely affect the policies, programmes and projects involved in addressing such a phenomenon;

(b) The concept of social exclusion can be very confusing and requires revision in light of any new development. In this context, it is useful to identify the reasons of exclusion as a result of specific policies, or of a political perspective to exclusion that reinforces the rights and disregards obligations;

(c) There are political factors affecting the phenomenon of exclusion in some countries, as there are variations in talking about the right of citizenship according to the countries of the region. It is helpful to strengthen the existing institutional role of promoting social integration rather than creating new bodies. In fact, the socio-economic system, which is governed by scarcity of resources and poor human capacity, thus weakening its capacity to respond to the needs of marginalized groups in society, would also lead to unintentional social exclusion, contrary to the desire and political will to promote social inclusion.

2. Participatory social development

12. The Committee on Social Development examined this item on the basis of report E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/4(Part II), which clarifies the meaning of participatory development through policies related to such development, the ways of implementation and issues affecting its processes. This report concludes that the interest of Governments in the region in participatory systems and their implementation mechanisms has not led to convincing results in view of poor institutional capacities and the continuous repercussions of instability, poverty, unemployment and other problems leading to exclusion and weak participation. Therefore, the report highlights the approach of participatory development intervention indicating the main conclusions and obstacles to its implementation on the basis of relevant practical experiences. The report focuses on reviewing ESCWA experience in implementing the participatory development intervention approach, including the provision of capacity-building manuals and programmes as well as enabling conditions and opportunities for exchange of experiences. In the context of defining the ESCWA approach, the report provides an explanation to the premises of the participatory development approach; main factors contributing to its development; and most important results and conclusions of its application represented by five overlapping areas: participation, capacity-building, poverty control, gender empowerment and environment protection.

13. The discussion covered the following issues:

(a) The need for member States to adopt a formula for the preparation of periodic reports to be submitted to the Social Development Committee on participation, and other social development priority issues, focusing on the roles of social actors and how to activate and strengthen their capacity to address social problems;

(b) The need to prepare presentations on successful experiences in the field of participation among Governments, civil society organizations and the private sector in formulating public policy, with the aim to exchange experiences and promote a positive outlook to the beneficial results achieved by the process of participation, as well as to highlight the work done by universities, research institutes, and media institutions in the field of social development;

(c) The need to build on existing frameworks on participation, such as decentralized bodies and national and local councils, in order to stimulate and enhance their role in promoting participation and supporting consensus on general targets and objectives of policies, so that dialogue and interaction would focus on more appropriate approaches and mechanisms for the implementation of such aims and targets;

(d) The difference in focal areas of ESCWA approaches towards participatory development intervention was noted, where the same participation and capacity-building significantly affect the rest of the areas, and thus the overall strategies and mechanisms for intervention. Despite the conviction of all partners in the development process of the importance of participation in development planning, such participation is still not sufficient.

3. *Youth in development policies*

14. The Committee examined this item on the basis of report E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/4(Part III), which highlights the need to reconsider conventional methods which focus on holistic solutions in youth planning, with a view to adopt a model which responds to the particular conditions of member countries, and that can be employed to ensure political, economic and social integration of youth. The report seeks to promote the framework of youth policies recommended by WPAY, which was endorsed by member countries. The report defines the most recent methodologies which are expected to contribute to mitigate the severity of economic and social structural factors, and put forward policies with qualitative cumulative dimensions that would limit the exclusion of youth. As for new points of view included in the report, although they are based on fundamental human development principles, they add a new framework that addresses the issue of youth development through its relation to the life cycle approach. The report affirms the importance of member countries to adopt updated approaches consistent with reality, and in accordance with the structural changes of population when planning for youth, as well as to adopt a contemporary view based on considering young people as influential agents of social change, economic development and technological achievements. Finally, the report aims to urge decision makers and those concerned with development to make youth in the age cohort of 15-24 years a central part of their strategic choices.

15. The discussion covered the following issues:

(a) Approaching youth policies on a demographic cultural and social basis helps acquire an overall familiarity with the youth situation within the context of social development conditions in member countries, and impacts of globalization;

(b) Inconsistency among member States in formulating youth-related policies, especially as the dominant feature is the failure and limitation of these policies and the lack of periodical reports to monitor them at the national level, calls for more efforts and for providing technical advice and capacity-building support, as well as for opportunities to exchange experience and expertise;

(c) Unemployment constitutes one of the major problems facing youth-related policies, in view of their repercussions on poverty, exclusion and migration. Responding to unemployment and its different repercussions requires integrated policies in various sectors and levels, including the need to coordinate such policies at regional level;

(d) Keeping pace with developments and changes imposed by globalization through the development of educational curricula is indispensable to cope with local and regional developments;

(e) ESCWA needs to continue promoting the formulation of policies for young people to enhance their capabilities, empowerment and provide opportunities for participation in public affairs.

C. PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2010-2011
IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
(Item 6 of the agenda)

16. The Committee on Social Development examined this item on the basis of document E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/5. The document presents proposed priorities for the programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011 in the field of social development. These include the expected accomplishments from the secretariat and indicators of achievements relating to the objective of adopting policies that promote social justice and equal opportunities for all, taking into consideration regional specificities. The document also covers the strategy of the programme, external factors affecting its implementation, and outputs expected during the 2010-2011 biennium, divided as follows: services to intergovernmental and expert meetings; other substantive activities, including publications and technical materials; and technical cooperation activities, including advisory services, training courses, seminars, workshops, and field projects.

17. The discussion covered the following issues:

(a) It is important to increase the interest of member countries in the advisory services proposed by ESCWA, and to increase the budget for such services;

(b) Despite the efforts of ESCWA, governmental and non-governmental organizations in developing frameworks for the empowerment of youth, there is still a need to further develop those frameworks and to activate their roles on new bases;

(c) Activities in the programme of work are not the only ones to be implemented during the coming two years, funded from the internal budget of the United Nations. There are other projects and activities under implementation or expected to be implemented which are funded by external resources outside ESCWA budget;

(d) Efforts by member countries and ESCWA secretariat to achieve more openness to joint programmes and projects need to continue, and the Committee on Social Development will act as a platform for exchanging views and activating consultation mechanism on issues of social development;

(e) Both quantitative and qualitative aspects need to be considered in the development of achievement indicators, in order to measure the effectiveness of implementation of the expected accomplishments and related activities.

D. DATE AND VENUE OF THE EIGHT SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
(Item 7 of the agenda)

18. Under this item, the Committee decided to convene its eighth session at ESCWA headquarters in Beirut during the first week of March 2011.

E. OTHER MATTERS
(Item 8 of the agenda)

19. Under this item, the following issues were raised:

(a) Focusing on the contents of reports to be prepared by member countries with a view to submission to the Committee on Social Development at its next session, to reflect the most prominent achievements in the area of participation, as a vital theme through which to address the issues deemed to be important and crucial by countries, such as youth, civil society and citizenship;

(b) List of participants annexed to the final report of the Committee on Social Development needs to include detailed addresses to facilitate the process of communication among participants between sessions.

III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ON ITS SEVENTH SESSION

(Item 9 of the agenda)

20. At its final meeting held on 27 October 2009, the Committee on Social Development adopted the report presented on its seventh session in document E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/L.6.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. DATE AND VENUE OF THE SESSION

21. The seventh session of the Committee on Social Development was held at ESCWA headquarters in Beirut on 26 and 27 October 2009. In six meetings, the committee discussed the items included in the agenda in paragraph 27 of this report.

B. OPENING

22. Ms. Sanaa Hikmat Mehyar, representative of Jordan, opened the session in her capacity as chairwoman of the sixth session. In her statement, she pointed to the set of recommendations made during the sixth session of the committee, focusing on increasing the interest of member countries in integrated social development in the Arab region and the provision of political and financial support for its implementation through capacity-building programmes, technical consultation and promotion of communication between member countries and social partners. Ms. Mehyar praised ESCWA for its great efforts in promoting regional cooperation, facing challenges and advancing social development. In her speech, Ms. Mehyar called to enhance joint action between ESCWA and member countries and invest available human and institutional capacities in order to keep pace with regional blocks, and scientific and technologic development. Finally, she pointed to the need to take advantage of ESCWA activities included in its work programme for the 2010-2011 biennium, and expressed the wish that this session would produce guidelines and practical suggestions to manage the process of social development.

23. Mr. Youssef Nussair, Chief of Information and Communication Technology Division, delivered a statement on behalf of Mr. Badr AlDafa, ESCWA Executive Secretary and United Nations Under-Secretary-General, in which he reaffirmed the importance of the role assumed by the Committee on Social Development in discussing the proposed ESCWA programme of work in the field of social development, and presenting suggestions aimed at developing the programme and coordinating its activities. The statement underscored the interest ESCWA takes in motivating cooperation and partnership between social actors, in order to promote coherent policies to counter social problems, particularly poverty, unemployment and exclusion. Mr. Nussair also pointed out that all Governments, civil society organizations, private sector institutions, media, and all international and regional organizations, are concerned with the social policy process in terms of enhancing empowerment and institutional capacities to carry out social functions emanating from this policy.

24. Mr. Pierre Chebib, representative of the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs, welcomed the participants. Mr. Chebib pointed to the exacerbation of social problems in the region, the failing of efforts in the area of human development, and the lack of coordination between various sectoral ministries on the one hand, and ministries involved in development, civil society organizations and local authorities on the other hand, not to mention the lack of interest of productive sectors and the lack of transparency in the implementation of developmental projects that could yield a positive impact on the welfare of the community. In this context, Mr. Chebib called for taking advantage of the seventh session to exchange expertise and the successful experiences in the region, in order to develop a national development plan and identify the pressing development priorities in Lebanon, and activate work within the Ministry of Planning that is responsible for the organization of work between all ministries to enhance cooperation. Mr. Chebib focused on the continued efforts of the Ministry of Social Affairs in Lebanon to implement developmental activities despite the scarcity of financial resources. He finally reaffirmed the urgent need to unite efforts in the field of social affairs in order to advance social development in Lebanon and other member countries.

C. PARTICIPANTS

25. Representatives of the following ESCWA member countries participated in the session: Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan and Yemen. Representatives of various United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, international intergovernmental organizations and their associated agencies, international and regional non-governmental organizations, civil society organization and donor entities participated as well. The list of participants is included in annex I of this report.

D. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

26. Rule 18 of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of ESCWA provides that "Member countries shall assume the chairmanship of the sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on a rotating basis, in the Arabic alphabetical order employed by the United Nations. Unless the Commission decides otherwise, those bodies shall elect all their other officers." Pursuant to that rule, Ms. Jameela Abdulla al Kooheiji, representative of Bahrain, took the Chair of the session, pursuant to the absence of the representative of the United Arab Emirates. The Committee nominated Mr. Omar Mohammed Subhi al Zabet of Jordan, and Mr. Abdallah ben Moussa el Husseini of Oman, as Vice-chairmen, and Mr. Mahmud Ataya of Palestine as Rapporteur.

E. AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

27. At its first meeting, the Committee adopted the agenda of its seventh session presented in document E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/L.1:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
4. Progress achieved in carrying out social development-related activities under ESCWA programme of work since the sixth session of the Committee on Social Development.
5. Follow-up on priority issues in the field of social development in the ESCWA region:
 - (a) Social inclusion;
 - (b) Participatory social development;
 - (c) Youth in development policies.
6. Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011 in the field of social development.
7. Date and venue of the eighth session of the Committee.
8. Other matters.
9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its seventh session.

28. At that meeting, the Committee also adopted the proposed organization of work in the form in which it appears in document E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/L.2.

F. DOCUMENTS

29. Annex II of this report lists the documents submitted to the Committee at its seventh session.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. ESCWA MEMBER COUNTRIES

Bahrain

Ms. Hanan Mohammed Kamal
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Social Development

Ms. Jameela Abdulla al Kooheiji
Director of Public and International Relations
Directorate
Ministry of Social Development

Egypt

Mr. Mohamed Omar el-Fiky
Second Secretary
Embassy of Egypt in Lebanon

Jordan

Mr. Omar Mohammad Subhi al Zabet
Assistant Secretary-General
Ministry of Social Development

Kuwait

Ms. Anam Abdulla al Mutawa
Director of Human Development
Secretariat of the Higher Supreme Council for
Planning and Development

Ms. Wisal Abdul-Aziz Madoh
Observer of Education and Training
Higher Supreme Council for Planning and
Development

Lebanon

Mr. Pierre Chebib
Advisor to the Minister
Ministry of Social Affairs

Mr. Ghazi Muhammad Freij
Expert, Department of Planning and Research
Ministry of Social Affairs

Ms. Mariana al Khayat Mouhamad
Head of Public Relations and Conventions
Department
Secretary of the National Population Committee
Coordinator of youth issues with ESCWA and
coordinator of ESCWA project on social
participatory development in post-conflict
countries
Ministry of Social Affairs

Ms. Mariam Tanios Mghames
Head of Department of Population
Ministry of Social Affairs

Mr. Antoine Elias Metni
Head of Social Development
Ministry of Social Affairs

Mr. Samir el Chamy
Communication officer, Arab Organization for
Agricultural Development
Acting Director-General
Ministry of Agriculture

Ms. Hala Munir Abdallah
Ministry of Agriculture

Oman

Mr. Abdallah ben Moussa el Hussein
Social Researcher, Technical Office of the
National Population Committee
Ministry of National Economy

Mr. Akil ben Abd el Majid Louati
Economic Researcher, Directorate-General of the
Service Sectors Development
Ministry of National Economy

Palestine

Mahmud Abd Mahmud Ataya
Acting Chairman for Social Planning
Ministry of Planning and Administrative
Development

Qatar

Mr. Khaled Ali el Nuaimi
Expert in Social Development, Office of the
Minister
Ministry of Social Affairs

Ms. Moza el Mouslim
First Researcher in Social Planning
Permanent Population Committee

Saudi Arabia

Mr. Khalid Saleh al Shamhari
Department for Charity Association
Ministry of Social Affairs

The Sudan

Mr. Ibrahim Ahmad Ibrahim el Imam
Director-General of the Centre of Projects for
Poverty Alleviation
Ministry of Social Welfare, Women and Child
Affairs

Yemen

Mr. Lotf Ahmad al-Aalaya
Assistant-Under-Secretary for the Development
Sector
Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour

B. UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

United Nations Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Dr. Seiko Sugita
Programme Specialist
Social and Human Sciences
Beirut, Lebanon

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Mr. Ray Virgilio Torres
UNICEF Representative in Lebanon
Beirut, Lebanon

C. INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Housing and Urban Development Corporation

Ms. Sanaa Hikmat Mutii Mehyar
Director-General
Amman, Jordan

D. REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

League of Arab States

Mr. Tareq Nabil al-Nabulssi
Officer
Development and Social Policies Department
Social Committee of the Economic and Social
Council
Cairo, Egypt

Council of Ministers of Social Affairs in the Gulf
Cooperation Council States – Executive Office

Mr. Mahmood Ali Hafez
Social Affairs Manager
Manama, Bahrain

Islamic Development Bank

Mr. Abdelatif Chaieb
Country Officer
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Saudi Fund for Development

Mr. Thamer ben Saleh el Jared
Economic Researcher
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Mr. Khalid Rached el Hudaithi
Accountant
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

International Centre for Agricultural Research in
the Dry Areas

Mr. Hassan Haidar Machlab
ICARDA and Terbol Station Manager
Beirut, Lebanon

Family Development Foundation, Social Training
Institution

Mr. Hussein Salem al Sarhan
Advisor and Manager
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

E. RESEARCH CENTRES AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. George Kossaifi
Dar al Tanmia Manager (Expert Consultants)
Beirut, Lebanon

Ms. Maya el Ghoul
El Safadi Institution
Tripoli, Lebanon

F. UNIVERSITIES

Mr. Elia Elia
Assistant Director for Public Relations
Balamand University
Lebanon

Ms. Sandra Willis
Adjunct Professor
Michigan State University
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Ms. Mirna Abbud Marzouk
Professor in Social Sciences
Holy Spirit University
Lebanon

G. EXPERTS

Mr. Munir Mhanna
Expert in Local Development Affairs
Beirut, Lebanon

Ms. Khairieh Kadouh
Professor in the Faculty of Pedagogy, Higher
Studies Department
Lebanese University

Mr. Abd Hussein Shaban
Independent Expert
Documentary Centre for Humanitarian
International Law
Baghdad, Iraq

Mr. Jeroen Schouten
Consultant
The Netherlands

Mr. Philip Van Heem Stra
Political Advisor
The Netherlands

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Title	Item	Symbol
Information note		E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/INF.1
Provisional agenda and annotations	3	E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/L.1
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Follow-up on priority issues in the field of social development in the ESCWA region	5	E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/4
Social inclusion	5 (a)	E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/4(Part I)
Participatory social development	5 (b)	E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/4(Part II)
Youth in development policies	5 (c)	E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/4(Part III)
Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011 in the field of social development	6	E/ESCWA/SDD/2009/IG.1/5/Rev.1