

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

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
30 April 2009 – 19 May 2010

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
**OFFICIAL RECORDS, 2010**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 19**



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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

E/2010/39  
E/ESCAP/66/27

ISSN: 0252 – 2284



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[26 May 2010]

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACABQ	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions
ACPR	Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission
ADB	Asian Development Bank
APCICT	Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development
APCTT	Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
APETIT	Network of Asia-Pacific Education and Training Institutes in Tourism
APTA	Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement
ARTNeT	Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
CAPSA	Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific
CCOP	Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia
ECO	Economic Cooperation Organization
EPOC	ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre
GDP	gross domestic product
HIV/AIDS	human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
ICT	information and communications technology
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
JAXA	Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency
NEASPEC	North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation
NGO	non-governmental organization
ODA	official development assistance
R and D	research and development
RIMES	Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SIAP	Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
SME	small and medium-sized enterprise
SPECA	United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia
TCDC	technical cooperation among developing countries
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNAPCAEM	United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
WHO	World Health Organization
WINDS	Wideband InterNetworking engineering test and Demonstration Satellite
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

Notes: Values are in United States dollars unless otherwise specified.  
The term “billion” signifies a thousand million.



## **Introduction**

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific held its sixty-sixth session in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 13 to 19 May 2010. The present report, which covers the period from 30 April 2009 to 19 May 2010, contains an account of the discussions and the conclusions reached by the Commission.

## **Chapter I**

### **ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION**

2. At its sixty-sixth session, the Commission adopted 15 resolutions. Resolution 66/13 on strengthening cooperation in North and Central Asia requires action by the Council; the remaining resolutions are brought to the attention of the Council. For the text, see chapter IV.

## Chapter II

### WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION

#### A. Activities of subsidiary bodies and intergovernmental meetings

3. During the period under review, in pursuance of Commission resolution 64/1, the following meetings of subsidiary bodies were held:

##### *Committee meetings*

- (a) Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Development;
- (b) Committee on Trade and Investment;
- (c) Committee on Environment and Development;
- (d) Committee on Statistics;
- (e) Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction.

##### *Governing Councils*

- (a) Governing Council of APCICT;
- (b) Governing Council of APCTT;
- (c) Governing Council of UNAPCAEM;
- (d) Governing Council of CAPSA;
- (e) Governing Council of SIAP.

##### *Intergovernmental meetings*

- (a) Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport;
- (b) Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Review Regional Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and Its Regional and Global Outcomes;
- (c) 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.

4. The dates, bureaux and document symbols of the reports of the meetings are given in annex II to the present report. The reports of those bodies reflect the discussions held, the agreements reached and the decisions taken by them.

5. In pursuance of Commission resolution 64/1 on the restructuring of the conference structure of the Commission, the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries, formerly a subsidiary body of the Commission, was organized as a part of the Commission session, with the status of a committee of the whole. The meeting of the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries was held on 13 May 2010 during the senior officials segment.

#### B. Publications

6. The publications issued during the reporting period 2009/2010<sup>1,2</sup> and pre-session documents submitted to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session are listed in annex III.

#### C. Relations with other United Nations programmes

7. The secretariat maintained close and regular liaison with United Nations Headquarters departments, as well as with the secretariats of the other regional commissions, on projects of common interest.

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<sup>1</sup> Biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2008-2009 (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/61/6/Rev.1)*) (based on E/ESCAP/63/22).

<sup>2</sup> Strategic framework for the period 2010-2011 (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/63/6/Rev.1)*) (based on E/ESCAP/64/22/Rev.1).

## Chapter III

### SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

#### A. Attendance and organization of work

8. The sixty-sixth session of the Commission was hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea and Incheon Metropolitan City at Songdo Convensia Convention Center from 13 to 19 May 2010. The session comprised two segments: the senior officials segment, which was held from 13 to 15 May 2010, and the ministerial segment, which was held from 17 to 19 May 2010.

9. The session was attended by representatives of the following members and associate members:

##### *Members*

Afghanistan	Lao People's
Armenia	Democratic
Australia	Republic
Azerbaijan	Malaysia
Bangladesh	Maldives
Bhutan	Mongolia
Brunei Darussalam	Myanmar
Cambodia	Nauru
China	Nepal
Fiji	Netherlands
France	Pakistan
India	Palau
Indonesia	Papua New Guinea
Iran (Islamic	Philippines
Republic of)	Republic of Korea
Japan	Russian
Kazakhstan	Federation
Kiribati	Samoa
Solomon Islands	Singapore
Sri Lanka	United States of
Thailand	America
Timor-Leste	Uzbekistan
Tonga	Vanuatu
Turkey	Viet Nam
Turkmenistan	
Tuvalu	<i>Associate members</i>
Kyrgyzstan	Hong Kong, China
	Macao, China

10. By virtue of rule 3 of the Commission's rules of procedure, representatives of the Czech Republic and South Africa attended. Representatives of the Holy See also attended.

11. The session was attended by representatives of the following offices of the United Nations Secretariat: Office of the High Representative for the Least

Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; and Regional Commissions New York Office.

12. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Regional Support Team Asia and Pacific; United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; United Nations Environment Programme; United Nations Institute for Training and Research; United Nations Population Fund; and United Nations Project Office on Governance.

13. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present in a consultative capacity: World Meteorological Organization; International Maritime Organization; and International Atomic Energy Agency.

14. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian and Pacific Coconut Community; Asian Development Bank; Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific; Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia; International Organization for Migration; and Typhoon Committee Secretariat.

15. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations: International Movement ATD Fourth World; International Planned Parenthood Federation; International Union for Conservation of Nature; Muslim World League; and LDC Watch.

16. Representatives of the Asia Economic Community Forum, the Asian Institute of Technology and the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments also attended the session.

17. The list of participants is given in document E/ESCAP/66/INF/2/Rev.2.

18. In accordance with rule 13 of its rules of procedure, the Commission elected Mr. Kim Jong-hoon (Republic of Korea) Chair.

19. Following its past practice, the Commission decided to elect the following heads of delegations vice-chairs:

Mr. Abdul Hadi Arghandewal (Afghanistan)  
Mr. Ly Thuch (Cambodia)  
Mr. Liu Zhenmin (China)  
Mr. Inoke Kubuabola (Fiji)

Ms. Armida S. Alisjahbana (Indonesia)  
Mr. Seyed Mohammad Ghasem Hosseini  
(Islamic Republic of Iran)  
Ms. Chinami Nishimura (Japan)  
Mr. Bakhyt Sultanov (Kazakhstan)  
Mr. Anote Tong (Kiribati)  
Mr. Bounkeut Sangsomsak (Lao People's  
Democratic Republic)  
Mr. Abdulla Shahid (Maldives)  
U Nyan Win (Myanmar)  
Mr. Jagadish Chandra Pokharel (Nepal)  
Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali (Pakistan)  
Mr. Sali Subam (Papua New Guinea)  
Mr. Gil S. Beltran (Philippines)  
Mr. Gennady M. Gatilov (Russian  
Federation)  
Mr. Nickel Lee Hang (Samoa)  
Mr. Ped Shanel Agovaka (Solomon Islands)  
Mr. Panich Vikitsreth (Thailand)  
Mr. Lotoala Metia (Tuvalu)  
Mr. Nipake Edward Natapei (Vanuatu)  
Mr. Doan Xuan Hung (Viet Nam)

20. The senior officials segment of the session met in two Committees of the Whole. The following officers were elected:

- (a) Committee of the Whole I:
- Chair*
- Ms. Noumea Simi (Samoa)
- Vice-Chairs*
- Mr. Anuson Chinverno (Thailand)  
Mr. Ahmed Amjad Ali (Pakistan)
- (b) Committee of the Whole II:
- Chair*
- Mr. Mohammad Hatta (Indonesia)
- Vice-Chairs*
- Mr. Daw Penjo (Bhutan)  
Mr. Nikolay N. Pomoshchnikov  
(Russian Federation)

21. The Commission also constituted a Working Group on Draft Resolutions, chaired by Mr. Yuji Kumamaru (Japan), to consider draft resolutions submitted during the session. Mr. Syed Mohamad Bakri Syed Abdul Rahman (Malaysia) was elected Vice-Chair of the Working Group.

## B. Agenda

22. The Commission adopted the following agenda:

### Senior officials segment

1. Opening of the session:
- (a) Opening addresses;

- (b) Election of officers;
- (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries:
- (a) Mid-term review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
- (b) Other matters.
3. Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission, including the programme performance report for the biennium 2008-2009 and the work of the ESCAP regional institutions:
- (a) Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and inclusive development;
- (b) Trade and investment;
- (c) Transport;
- (d) Environment and development;
- (e) Information and communications technology;
- (f) Disaster risk reduction;
- (g) Social development;
- (h) Statistics;
- (i) Subregional activities for development.
4. Management issues:
- (a) Evaluations: report on evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2008-2009 and outcome of the evaluations of APCICT and SIAP;
- (b) Programme changes for the biennium 2010-2011;
- (c) Draft strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013;
- (d) Technical cooperation activities of ESCAP and announcement of intended contributions.
5. Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission.
6. Dates, venue and theme topic for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission (April/May 2011).

## Ministerial segment

7. Policy issues for the Asia-Pacific region:
  - (a) Key challenges to inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific;
  - (b) Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2010.
8. Theme topic for the sixty-sixth session: “Addressing challenges in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals: Promoting a stable and supportive financial system; and Green Growth or environmentally sustainable economic growth, including through technology and financing”.
9. Other matters.
10. Adoption of the report of the Commission.

## C. Account of proceedings

### Senior officials segment

23. On 13 May 2010, the senior officials segment of the sixty-sixth session was opened by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP, who gave an address of welcome. Mr. Kim Kyung-soo, Director-General for International Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea, gave the opening address.

### Ministerial segment

24. On 17 May 2010, the Acting Chair of the sixty-fifth session, Mr. Nickel Lee Hang (Samoa), declared open the ministerial segment of the sixty-sixth session of the Commission. A message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations was conveyed by video. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP gave a welcoming statement.

25. Keynote addresses were delivered by Ms. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, and Mr. Nipake Edward Natapei, Prime Minister of Vanuatu. Mr. Chung Un-chan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea, delivered the inaugural address. Mr. Anote Tong, President of Kiribati, and Mr. Chung Byung-il, Acting Mayor of Incheon, also attended the inaugural session.

### Agenda item 2

#### Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries

##### Sub-item (a)

#### Mid-term review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

26. The Commission had before it the Port Vila Outcome Statement (E/ESCAP/66/1) and an information note entitled “Outcome of the Pacific Conference on the Human Face of the Global Economic Crisis” (E/ESCAP/66/INF/7).

27. Representatives of the following countries made statements: China; Fiji; France; Indonesia; Japan; Kiribati; Nauru; Republic of Korea; Tonga; Tuvalu; and Vanuatu.

28. The Commission noted that, pursuant to resolution 64/1 of 30 April 2008 on the restructuring of the conference structure of the Commission, the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries was meeting for the first time as part of the senior officials segment of the Commission session. Several delegations expressed satisfaction with the new status of the Special Body.

29. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP delivered a statement and moderated a high-level panel. The panellists were as follows:

(a) Mr. Sela Molisa, Minister of Finance and Economic Management, Vanuatu;

(b) Mr. Lotoala Metia, Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Tuvalu;

(c) Mr. Cheick Sidi Diarra, Under-Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Africa and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries, and Small Island Developing States.

30. The Commission noted that, despite the endeavours of Pacific small island developing States to create sustainable economic, social and environmental development, critical challenges remained, in particular the threat of climate change, vulnerability to natural disasters and the high infrastructure costs and a narrow resource base resulting from isolation and small land area and population sizes.

31. The Commission recognized the special situation of the Pacific small island developing States and reiterated its commitment to providing assistance. Several delegations expressed support for the goal of increasing linkages between the Pacific and Asia through South-South cooperation, in particular through such ESCAP forums as the regional coordination mechanism.

32. Viewing climate change as a critical challenge, the Commission noted with concern the increased frequency of climate-related disasters and degradation, such as coastal erosion and increased frequency of damaging storms and floods. It also noted the importance of establishing the most urgent priorities so

that assistance could be effectively targeted. Several delegations suggested that the priorities should include climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, human resource capacity-building, infrastructure development, institutional strengthening and implementation of economic reforms.

33. The Commission noted the need for urgent and coordinated assistance to Pacific small island developing States and improved access to funding, as indicated in the Port Vila Outcome Statement.

34. The Commission noted several initiatives under way in the Pacific island developing countries related to developing renewable energy initiatives.

35. The delegation of Japan informed the Commission of the outcome of the fifth Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' Meeting (PALM5) with Japan, held on 22 and 23 May 2009, which included a commitment of 50 billion yen over three years in assistance to Pacific island countries. Assistance would focus on three pillars of development: environment and climate change; human security through human resource development in the areas of health, water and education; and people-to-people exchanges that helped build closer relationships between Japan and Pacific island countries.

36. The Commission was informed of the peer review processes being conducted as a result of the Cairns Compact on Strengthening Development Coordination in the Pacific, which had been adopted in 2009 at the fortieth Pacific Islands Forum. The first review under the Compact had been conducted in Nauru and had focused on national planning processes and links to the budget. The outcome of that review would be presented to the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' Meeting in August 2010.

37. Referring to the Port Vila Outcome Statement and citing recent disasters in Tonga and Samoa, one delegation requested international assistance for the establishment of early warning systems, insurance mechanisms and improved disaster-related support for financing and reconstruction.

38. Several delegations informed the Commission of their ongoing commitment to support Pacific small island developing States through South-South cooperation in such areas as policy development, institutional strengthening, human resource development, fisheries, climate change, disaster risk reduction, microfinance and diplomacy training, and art and culture scholarships, green growth and information and communications technologies.

39. The delegation of the Republic of Korea informed the Commission that its Government, as a Post-Forum Dialogue Partner with the Pacific Islands Forum, offered substantial assistance to small island

developing States in the form of in kind contributions and capacity-building programmes, among others. The Republic of Korea was particularly interested in supporting the enhancement of regional connectivity, information and communications technology development, and maritime-related activity through multilateral and bilateral cooperation.

40. The Commission noted that the current focus of the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC) was providing technical assistance and policy advice designed to strengthen national sustainable development strategies, to promote green growth strategies, to facilitate progress in pursuing the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States<sup>1</sup> in the Pacific, and to develop partnerships both within the subregion and through wider partnerships, including South-South and regional cooperation, with particular emphasis on strengthening links between the Pacific and Asia.

41. One delegation noted the progress being made towards sustainable development in the Pacific small island developing States and suggested that greater attention should be given to that strategy in the light of recent global crises.

42. The Commission generally endorsed the Port Vila Outcome Statement as the Asia-Pacific regional input for the global review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

43. The Commission expressed support for the renaming of the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre as the "ESCAP Subregional Office for the Pacific".

44. The Commission adopted resolution 66/2 on the Five-Year Review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

**Sub-item (b)**  
**Other matters**

45. No other matter was discussed.

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<sup>1</sup> *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

### **Agenda item 3**

#### **Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission, including the programme performance report for the biennium 2008-2009 and the work of the ESCAP regional institutions**

46. The Commission had before it the programme performance report for the biennium 2008-2009 (E/ESCAP/66/4), the subprogramme overview: issues and challenges related to inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/66/2) and the summary of progress in the implementation of Commission resolutions (E/ESCAP/66/3).

##### **Sub-item (a)**

#### **Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and inclusive development**

47. In addition to the common documents being considered under agenda item 3, the Commission had before it the report of the Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Development on its first session (E/ESCAP/66/5), the Asia-Pacific regional review on the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010: Dhaka Outcome Document (E/ESCAP/66/6) and the report of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/66/7).

48. Representatives of the following countries made statements: Bangladesh; China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Malaysia; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; and Thailand.

49. The Commission expressed appreciation for the high quality analytical work and capacity-building support extended to the member Governments in addressing the challenges posed by the global economic crisis, promoting the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and supporting the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (Brussels Programme of Action).<sup>2</sup>

50. The Commission noted that, although the region was in the midst of a V-shaped recovery from the crisis, the foundations of such a recovery were not yet robust and balanced, and were subject to many uncertainties. In that context, policymakers faced many policy challenges and downside risks for sustaining recovery and promoting inclusive development arising from the volatility in global financial markets, rising food and oil prices leading to inflation, and the risks of renewed contagion following the Greek debt crisis, among other

factors. In that regard, the Commission noted a request that the secretariat continue its policy-oriented work to assist the member countries in addressing those challenges.

51. The Commission recognized that the impact of the global economic crisis had been uneven, both across countries and within countries. Since it was the poor and vulnerable who suffered most during economic downturns, the crisis had threatened to reverse some of the region's gains towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and was posing challenges to the achievement of the goal of inclusive development. The Commission noted a request for the secretariat to continue its analytical work on approaches to poverty reduction and the fostering of inclusive development.

52. Given the uncertainties about the process of recovery from the crisis, the promotion of regional economic and financial cooperation, including regional self-help and a financial architecture, was crucial to sustaining economic development in the region, which could also provide a building block for a sustained global economic recovery. In that context, the role of South-South and triangular cooperation was also emphasized, as countries with similar backgrounds and levels of development were in a good position to share their experiences and learn from each other. The need to invest in physical and digital connectivity across countries in the region to facilitate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals was also recognized. In that regard, the Commission noted a request for the secretariat to continue providing policy analyses to support countries in the region in achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

53. The Commission generally endorsed the Dhaka Outcome Document (E/ESCAP/66/6) and requested the Executive Secretary to transmit it as the Asia-Pacific input to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, in May 2011. In that context, the Commission expressed its appreciation to the secretariat for its effort and contribution in conducting the Asia-Pacific regional review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, which had resulted in the adoption of the Dhaka Outcome Document. It noted that such an outcome of the review would benefit the least developed countries and contribute to articulating a regional coordinated voice.

54. The Commission expressed appreciation for the various initiatives extended to the least developed countries by a number of Asia-Pacific member States. Several delegations requested the secretariat to continue its activities in support of the least developed countries to assist them in meeting their development challenges, including those resulting from the effects of the economic crisis, through, among other things, a duty-

<sup>2</sup> A/CONF.191/13, chap. II.

free and tariff preference scheme for least developed country exports on 94 per cent of Indian tariff lines and the promotion of trade with the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), including its least developed country members, within the framework of the implementation of the Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Partnership among Japan and Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (AJCEP), as well as activities carried out by the ASEAN-Japan Centre and the plan of the Republic of Korea to strengthen development cooperation with least developed countries in green growth policy to overcome problems related to climate change.

55. The Commission noted a request to donor countries to deliver on their existing official development assistance (ODA) commitments in a timely manner so that the progress made towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals would not be reversed, while recognizing the need to implement coordination among donor countries more effectively. It also encouraged all countries to take primary responsibility and ownership of their own development and to explore options for mobilizing financial resources other than ODA. Since financial resources were limited, participatory approaches which drew on the strengths of a wide range of stakeholders could be useful in that respect. In that context, the Commission also noted the ODA plan of the Republic of Korea to support the development of countries with special needs and the convening of the fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2011.

56. The Commission noted with appreciation the work of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (CAPSA) and recalled the contribution that it had made since its inception. Given the central role that the Centre could play in promoting agricultural development and poverty alleviation, the Commission encouraged member countries to contribute funding to it. The Commission generally supported the recommendation of the Centre's Governing Council to change its name to the Centre for the Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture, while retaining the acronym CAPSA.

57. The Commission noted a request to the secretariat to provide analytical support for the development of a regional voice and perspective for important international forums, such as the G-20 summit, to be held in the Republic of Korea in November 2010, the United Nations summit on the Millennium Development Goals, to be held in 2010, and the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in 2011. The Commission also noted a request for the secretariat to assist the region in translating initiatives agreed at international forums into concrete policy recommendations at the regional level.

58. The Commission generally endorsed the recommendations contained in the documents being considered under agenda item 3 (a).

59. The Commission adopted resolution 66/3 on the implementation of the Dhaka Outcome Document on the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries.

#### **Sub-item (b)** **Trade and investment**

60. In addition to the common documents being considered under agenda item 3, the Commission had before it the report of the Committee on Trade and Investment on its first session (E/ESCAP/66/8), the report of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (E/ESCAP/66/9) and the report of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (E/ESCAP/66/10).

61. Representatives of the following countries made statements: China; Fiji; India; Japan; Mongolia; Pakistan; Russian Federation; and Thailand.

62. The Commission noted the need to adhere to market access commitments and refrain from protectionism, which would delay rather than help the recovery from the global economic crisis.

63. In that regard, the Commission expressed its commitment to the primacy of a rule-based, equitable and transparent multilateral trading system in promoting global trade and development and noted the importance of concluding multilateral trade negotiations under the Doha Development Agenda<sup>3</sup> with a balanced outcome as soon as possible. In that connection, the Commission noted a request that the secretariat continue its efforts to help developing countries of the region that were not yet members of the World Trade Organization in their accession to that Organization and to help those that were already members to benefit from their membership in close collaboration with relevant international and regional organizations.

64. The Commission noted the synergy between the conclusion of the Doha Round and the promotion of aid for trade in strengthening the capacity of developing countries to benefit from trade and recover from the global economic crisis. In that regard, it noted the initiative of the Government of Japan to intensify its aid for trade through, among other things, the "Development Initiative for Trade 2009", which included a \$12 billion package for bilateral trade projects for the period 2009-2011.

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<sup>3</sup> See A/C.2/56/7, annex.



65. The Commission noted that various small countries, including island developing countries, had experienced tariff preference erosion, which had undermined their capacity to generate revenues and reduce poverty. At the same time, it noted the generalized systems of preferences various advanced countries were implementing in favour of less and least developed countries. Such schemes were viewed favourably as long as they would not result in trade diversion and would not include restrictive rules of origin.

66. The Commission recognized the role of evidence-based trade policy formulation, including at the country level, and, in that context, expressed support for the work being carried out under the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT).

67. The Commission noted a request that the secretariat continue its efforts to strengthen regional trade and investment with a focus on promoting South-South trade and investment in cooperation with relevant organizations and entities. It noted that regional trade agreements that conformed to World Trade Organization rules could contribute to enhanced regional trade and investment flows and constitute building blocks of regional integration. In that regard, it expressed support for the initiatives of the secretariat in that area, such as the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) and the Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Agreements Database (APTIAD).

68. The Commission noted the progress made under APTA with the adoption of framework agreements in investment and trade facilitation at the third session of the Ministerial Council, held in Seoul on 15 December 2009, the expected conclusion of the fourth round of tariff negotiations and the signing of the framework agreement on trade in services and the conclusion of full-fledged agreements in those areas. The Commission also noted the initiation of the process of accession to APTA by Mongolia. In that regard, the delegation of Mongolia expressed its appreciation for the technical assistance Mongolia was receiving from the secretariat to strengthen its capacity to conduct evidence-based negotiations on accession to APTA and other trade agreements.

69. The Commission underlined the need for enhanced regional cooperation in trade facilitation, including strengthened infrastructure and human resources development for trade facilitation and strengthened regional cooperation among financial institutions. In that regard, the Commission noted various activities that countries were undertaking to facilitate trade and transport at the regional and country levels.

70. The Commission underlined the role of the private sector in trade and investment and the need for

an enabling and stable environment for private sector development. In that regard, it called for needs-based technical assistance activities to strengthen the private sector, such as the activities the secretariat had been implementing in the Greater Mekong Subregion, with a focus on capacity-building for small and medium-sized enterprises.

71. The Commission noted the strong link between trade and investment, in particular foreign direct investment. It called for stronger synergies between domestic and foreign investment, in particular through the coordination of national development and investment policies and strategies. In that regard, it noted the important role of public-private partnerships. The Commission also noted a request that the secretariat undertake further study on the design of effective public-private partnerships for the promotion of large-scale investments that would meet local development needs.

72. The Commission noted the observation of one delegation that it was important to encourage corporate social responsibility from all stakeholders.

73. The Commission expressed support for the work undertaken by the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) and the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM) and called for stronger synergies among all of the regional institutions of ESCAP and relevant national-level institutions.

74. The Commission was informed that India, as the host country of APCTT, would continue to provide institutional and financial support to the Centre as well as administrative support, such as building maintenance services.

75. The Commission noted the important work of APCTT in promoting national innovation systems and the programme of work on renewable energy technologies. In that regard, it was informed that the Government of India had signed a trust fund agreement for a three-year project amounting to \$321,750 related to promoting national innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region.

76. The Commission noted the funding commitment of the Government of India to UNAPCAEM for the financial years 2009/10 and 2010/11. The delegation of India underlined the need for UNAPCAEM to continue its focus on the transfer of appropriate technologies and the development of renewable energy for the agricultural sector in collaboration with relevant national level agencies.

77. The Commission generally endorsed the recommendations contained in the documents considered under agenda item 3(b).

**Sub-item (c)**  
**Transport**

78. In addition to the common documents being considered under agenda item 3, the Commission had before it the report of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport on its first session (E/ESCAP/66/11).

79. Representatives of the following countries made statements: China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; and Thailand.

80. The Commission recognized the crucial role of transport and connectivity in promoting sustainable economic and social development, reducing poverty and improving the general welfare of people. The Commission noted the progress made in developing the Asian Highway and the Trans-Asian Railway networks and improving interregional connectivity, including intermodal transport corridors between Asia and Europe, and requested that those efforts be continued. It also noted with appreciation the activities undertaken by the secretariat to improve regional connectivity, in particular with regard to realizing the vision of an international, integrated, intermodal transport and logistics system; and it requested the secretariat to continue their implementation. It further noted with interest the initiatives of India and the Russian Federation to promote connectivity within countries and with neighbouring countries and regions, as well as the initiatives of the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in expanding connectivity to include information and communications technologies, energy, tourism and people-to-people exchanges.

81. The Commission noted a request that the secretariat continue its efforts to assist member countries in developing intermodal connectivity by integrating the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks and other transport systems through the development of an intergovernmental agreement on dry ports. That would create opportunities for a modal shift from road to rail and enhance the sustainability of transport through improved logistics.

82. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer of the Government of the Republic of Korea to provide support for the development of intermodal connectivity and dry ports.

83. The Commission noted with satisfaction the ratification of the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network<sup>4</sup> by Indonesia and its progress in becoming a party to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network.<sup>5</sup>

84. The Commission noted with interest that a seminar to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Asian Highway had been held in Tokyo in February 2010.

85. The Commission underlined the need to address road safety as a priority policy issue and requested the secretariat to continue to assist member countries in improving road safety. The Commission requested the secretariat to organize regional and subregional meetings to facilitate regional implementation of the Decade of Action for Road Safety, 2011-2020.

86. The Commission noted the importance of transport facilitation for connectivity and the development of transit corridors that involved the removal of non-physical barriers, the streamlining of customs procedures and the simplification of formalities in border crossings.

87. The Commission noted with appreciation the work of the secretariat in transport facilitation, in particular its role in developing the Agreement between the Governments of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Member States on Facilitation of International Road Transport.<sup>6</sup>

88. The Commission noted a request that the secretariat continue to formulate specific projects that promoted the facilitation of transport and trade, including the organization of seminars and capacity-building activities. The delegation of China expressed its Government's willingness to continue assisting regional partner countries by undertaking studies and participating in investment in infrastructure for the development of regional connectivity.

89. The Commission noted the importance of public-private partnerships in financing the development of economic and social infrastructure. It noted the successful conclusion of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development, held in Jakarta from 14 to 17 April 2010, which had produced the Jakarta Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/66/CRP.17). In that regard, the Commission noted a request that the secretariat guide and assist efforts to promote an exchange of experience among members and associate members to promote public-private partnerships further.

90. The Commission generally endorsed the report and recommendations of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport on its first session.

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<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2323, No. 41607.

<sup>5</sup> Commission resolution 62/4 of 12 April 2006, annex.

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<sup>6</sup> Negotiation of the main agreement was concluded in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, in June 2008.

91. The Commission adopted the following resolutions:

- (a) Resolution 66/4 on the implementation of the Bangkok Declaration on Transport Development in Asia;
- (b) Resolution 66/5 on the implementation of the Jakarta Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific;
- (c) Resolution 66/6 on improving road safety in Asia and the Pacific.

**Sub-item (d)**  
**Environment and development**

92. In addition to the common documents being considered under agenda item 3, the Commission had before it the report of the Committee on Environment and Development on its first session (E/ESCAP/66/12), the report of the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (E/ESCAP/66/INF/3) and the report of the Mekong River Commission (E/ESCAP/66/INF/4).

93. Representatives of the following countries made statements: Bangladesh; Cambodia; China; Fiji; India; Japan; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; and Thailand.

94. The Commission recognized the relevance of the work of the Mekong River Commission, exemplified by the high-level attendance at its first summit, held in Hua Hin, Thailand, in April 2010. The Commission noted with satisfaction the role of the Mekong River Commission as a regional platform for dialogue and information exchange on transboundary water resources management and expressed the need for increased collaboration among various subregional mechanisms and frameworks for increased efficiency.

95. The Commission recognized the important role of regional cooperation in addressing environment and development issues and took the view that further cooperation with other international organizations and international financial institutions was needed in order to strengthen efforts towards economic development, social progress and environmental sustainability.

96. The Commission noted the preparatory work undertaken by the secretariat for the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, to be hosted by the Government of Kazakhstan in Astana from 27 September to 2 October 2010. Several delegations encouraged the States members of the Commission to participate actively in the Ministerial Conference and expressed support for the preparatory process under way. The Commission also noted that the regional consultation meeting for the Ministerial Conference would be organized, with the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea,

back-to-back with the Fifth Policy Forum of the Seoul Initiative Network on Green Growth, to be held from 5 to 7 July 2010.

97. The Commission noted that environmentally sustainable economic growth, or green growth, was one of the approaches employed in the region to make progress in sustainable development and poverty reduction. In that regard, the Commission welcomed the various initiatives undertaken by countries in the Asia-Pacific region, according to their national priorities and circumstances, and noted with appreciation the efforts of member States, including the following: low-carbon development; reduction, reuse and recycling; the *mottainai* approach promoted by Japan; energy efficiency and modernization of the economy in the Russian Federation; solar energy power generation in India; the promotion of clean fuels, including compressed natural gas, for the reduction of urban air pollution in Bangladesh; the promotion of public-private partnerships for green investment and business development in Thailand; the establishment of a green growth secretariat and a green growth road map in Cambodia; and sustainable urban development in Fiji and other Pacific island countries. The Commission recognized the successful completion by Japan of the Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment<sup>7</sup> by 2010 and noted with appreciation the intention of the Government of the Republic of Korea to extend its support to the Seoul Initiative Network on Green Growth.<sup>8</sup>

98. Against the backdrop of the recent economic crisis, the Commission recognized the need to adopt new paradigms and strategies to better cope with such crises. In that connection, it noted the efforts of many Governments to shift policy towards low-carbon development and recognized the need to pursue a harmonized development model leading to sustainable development. Member States shared information on a number of initiatives in which high priority was attached to energy efficiency and renewable energy, including the setting of targets to increase the use of renewable energy, the promotion of the use of cleaner fuels and energy efficiency in addressing air pollution, and increased economic efficiency.

<sup>7</sup> Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, *Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific 2000, Kitakyushu, Japan, 31 August-5 September 2000: Ministerial Declaration, Regional Action Programme (2001-2005) and Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment (ST/ESCAP/2096)* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.II.F.12), Part Three.

<sup>8</sup> See Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, *The Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, 2005 (ST/ESCAP/2379)* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.F.31), Annex III.

99. The Commission noted that climate change was expected to aggravate the occurrence of natural disasters. In that respect, it noted a request for international support to implement disaster risk reduction plans in disaster-prone countries of the region.

100. Several delegations noted the challenges arising from rapid urbanization, including air pollution, inadequate infrastructure and services, and the need for increased capacity in urban planning and management. The challenges were evident in urban areas in the Pacific, despite the relatively small size of cities. Japan was of the view that lessons learned from the implementation of the Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment would further contribute to the improvement of urban environments in the region.

101. The Commission noted the progress made in some member countries in promoting integrated water resources management and, in particular, initiatives undertaken in the region relating to the reduction, reuse and recycling of water resources. It also recognized gaps in access to water and sewerage infrastructure in countries across the region. The Commission noted a request that the secretariat enhance cooperation with the Economic Commission for Europe on issues relating to water resources management. The Commission requested that the secretariat frame discussions on water in a way that focused on integrated water resources management, using internationally agreed concepts.

102. The Commission was informed that Japan would be hosting the Tenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Aichi-Nagoya City in October 2010, during which the concept of “coexistence with nature”, as well as the perspective of “conserving biodiversity as a measure of development and poverty reduction”, were intended to be discussed. The Commission encouraged member States to participate actively in the Conference.

103. The Commission generally endorsed the recommendations of the Committee on Environment and Development (E/ESCAP/66/12, chap I), noting that they could also serve as input to the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, to be held in Astana.

104. The Commission adopted resolution 66/7 on the Pacific Urban Agenda

**Sub-item (e)**  
**Information and communications technology**

105. In addition to the common documents being considered under agenda item 3, the Commission had before it the report of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (E/ESCAP/66/13).

106. Representatives of the following countries made statements: Bangladesh; India; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Thailand; Tonga; and Viet Nam.

107. The Commission noted that information and communications technology (ICT) formed an important foundation for socio-economic development and disaster risk reduction. In addition to recognizing the work of the secretariat in providing policy options and assisting in the implementation of policies aimed at bridging the digital divide as well as supporting efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the Commission noted that support for various ICT applications, such as e-trade, single windows, e-government, e-commerce, e-community, telemedicine and e-learning, was important for the socio-economic development of the countries of the region, but, as developing ICT infrastructure and services would exceed the national budgetary capacities of ESCAP developing member countries, it was recommended that the secretariat pay attention to the issue of attracting ICT investment using a public-private partnership mechanism. In recognition of the increasing demand for ICT among ESCAP developing member countries and the need to expand access to various resources, there was a request that the secretariat carefully examine the importance of ICT and support the implementation of ICT initiatives in various sectors in the future.

108. Taking note of the memorandum of understanding between the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and the secretariat signed in December 2008, the delegation of Japan expressed appreciation for the efforts of the secretariat in promoting the use of Wideband InterNetworking engineering test and Demonstration Satellite (WINDS) broadband satellite services in Pacific island countries and in sharing information on the use of satellite-based connectivity and applications.

109. Regarding Pacific connectivity, the Commission was informed that the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders had requested a review of the Pacific Plan<sup>9</sup> Digital Strategy and an update of the ICT development framework for the Pacific subregion. Accordingly, the Meeting of Pacific ICT Officials and Ministers would be convened by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community in Tonga from 16 to 18 June 2010 with a view to considering a new five-year ICT Strategy for the Pacific. The delegation of Tonga requested assistance from the secretariat in implementing the ICT priorities endorsed by the Pacific ICT ministers.

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<sup>9</sup> The *Pacific Plan for Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration* was endorsed by Leaders at the Pacific Islands Forum meeting in October 2005. It is available online at [www.forumsec.org.fj](http://www.forumsec.org.fj).

110. The Commission expressed appreciation for the significant contributions made by the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (APCICT) and the important functions that APCICT was performing. The human and institutional capacity-building services of the Centre were recognized as being valuable and innovative, and the fact that partnerships and collaboration had been established between governments and APCICT in a relatively short period of time was considered remarkable.

111. The Commission took note of a request for further capacity-building by APCICT in the area of ICT policy formulation. The Commission also took note of a request to expand the Centre's activities to address the emerging needs and requirements of members.

112. In addition, the Commission was informed of ongoing collaboration between APCICT and several governments with regard to localizing and implementing the Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders at the national level. The Commission was also informed of initiatives aimed at utilizing the Academy for the training of chief information officers and local government officials in ICT. The Commission was apprised that Viet Nam, the fourteenth country to launch the Academy programme at the national level, would conduct courses in diverse forms of training for the Government's managerial staff at all levels.

113. The delegation of the Republic of Korea informed the Commission that its Government supported the continuation of APCICT beyond 2011. The delegation also indicated its Government's readiness to continue to provide financial support to the Centre. The representatives of India and Indonesia reminded the Commission of the contributions previously made by their Governments to the Centre.

114. There was strong support for continuing the operation of APCICT beyond 2011 buttressed by the unanimous recommendation of the Governing Council of APCICT and the findings of an independent evaluation.

115. The Commission stressed the need to strengthen human and institutional capacities in the use of ICT for sustainable socio-economic development, including ICT applications for e-government, e-commerce and community e-centres.

116. The Commission took note of the report of APCICT and generally endorsed the recommendations emanating from the fourth session of the Governing Council of the Centre.

#### **Sub-item (f)** **Disaster risk reduction**

117. In addition to the common documents being considered under agenda item 3, the Commission had before it two information documents: the report of the Typhoon Committee (E/ESCAP/66/INF/5) and the report of the Panel on Tropical Cyclones (E/ESCAP/66/INF/6).

118. Representatives of the following countries made statements: China; Bangladesh; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; and Thailand.

119. Cognizant of the supreme vulnerability of the Asia-Pacific region to disasters, the Commission expressed support for disaster risk reduction efforts, which were considered important for sustainable and inclusive development.

120. The Commission noted with satisfaction the work of the secretariat in facilitating the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,<sup>10</sup> and the significant initiatives the secretariat had taken in that respect, such as the development of the Asia-Pacific gateway for disaster risk reduction and development and the preparation of the Asia-Pacific disaster report, which was expected to be a very good example of cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system in the area of disaster risk reduction and management.

121. The Commission was informed that JAXA and ESCAP had been implementing a series of activities and initiatives to promote the effective use of satellite imagery and remote sensing in disaster risk reduction, and communication through such initiatives as Sentinel Asia and WINDS. The Commission was also informed that the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum at its sixteenth session, held in Bangkok in January 2010, had expressed the desire to see Sentinel Asia increasingly used by disaster management organizations supported by ESCAP and other relevant organizations in the region. The delegation of Thailand welcomed the establishment of the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES).

122. The Commission noted with satisfaction the activities of the secretariat aimed at reducing disaster risks in the Asia-Pacific region and emphasized the importance of cooperation with other organizations, including the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, to avoid duplication. It was also noted that ESCAP should work closely with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) towards disaster risk reduction.

<sup>10</sup> A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

123. The Commission stressed the need to promote space-based applications for disaster risk management. In that connection, the delegation of China informed the Commission that its Government had written to the secretariat to offer free products and services from the two orbiting satellites as part of a constellation, comprising eight small-mission satellites, that China planned to create. The Commission noted with appreciation the financial support offered by the Government of China for the establishment of a regional cooperative mechanism on drought disaster monitoring and early warning. The Commission was of the view that the mechanism could help countries to better understand drought disasters and better estimate the economic, environmental and social consequences with the use of space-based applications.

124. The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran reported progress in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and the establishment of a national crisis management organization following the devastating earthquake in Bam in 2003. The delegation pointed out the importance of analysing the root causes of disasters, which encompassed the gamut of socio-economic development issues, including community participation, public awareness, information sharing, early warning, the allocation of resources, the use of local capacities and resources, and even urbanization and climate change. The delegation reiterated the intention of its Government to host an information, communication and space technology-enabled centre for disaster management to facilitate and enhance cooperation among the members of the Commission.

125. The Commission recognized the importance of the ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee and the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones in reducing tropical cyclone-related disaster risks in the region.

126. The representative of WMO, in referring to the opportunity for incorporating climate information into disaster risk reduction, informed the Commission that WMO would continue to support the work of the two regional intergovernmental bodies to the fullest extent possible, in collaboration with ESCAP.

127. The representative of the Typhoon Committee informed the Commission of its recent activities covering meteorology, hydrology and disaster risk reduction, particularly to reduce urban flood risk in a changing climate. The representative expressed appreciation to the government of Macao, China, for its continued hosting of the Typhoon Committee Secretariat until 2014, and the Government of the Republic of Korea for its hosting of the next annual session of the Committee in 2011.

128. The Commission adopted resolution 66/8 on the review of the proposal for the establishment of the Asian and Pacific centre for information, communication and

space technology-enabled disaster management in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

#### **Sub-item (g)** **Social development**

129. In addition to the common documents being considered under agenda item 3, the Commission had before it the report of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Review Regional Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its Regional and Global Outcomes (E/ESCAP/66/14 and Corr.1).

130. Representatives of the following countries made statements: Bangladesh; China; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Philippines; and Thailand.

131. The Commission reaffirmed the importance of social development in the regional efforts to achieve inclusive and sustainable development. It expressed strong support for the work of the secretariat in that area and called for it to be further strengthened.

132. The Commission noted the impact of the economic crisis in the region, particularly on the most vulnerable social groups. Several delegations reported on the range of social protection programmes under way, including the provision of affordable health care, pension schemes for older persons, labour market policies and income support schemes to mitigate the impacts of the crisis and assist in accelerating the recovery of the people most affected. The Commission further noted the potential contribution of social protection in reducing risks and vulnerabilities as well as in supporting the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It emphasized the value of regional cooperation in the sharing of good practices and experiences in the area of social protection and called upon the secretariat to further strengthen its work in that area.

133. The Commission recognized the important linkages between population and development and welcomed the organization of the sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in 2012, in accordance with Commission resolution 74 (XXIII) of 17 April 1967 on regional cooperation in the field of population. Several delegations identified the following priority areas as critical in the area of population and development: population ageing and its consequences for social protection and health care; international migration and development; urbanization; youth development; and maternal mortality.

134. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made by many countries in the region in implementing the Biwako Millennium Framework<sup>11</sup> and

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<sup>11</sup> Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an

Biwako Plus Five<sup>12</sup> during the second Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012. Several delegations reported on the policies and programmes under way to protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities, including the harmonization of national laws in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.<sup>13</sup> The Commission commended the secretariat for its work to support Governments in that area, including the successful organization of the ESCAP Takayama Congress on the Creation of an Inclusive and Accessible Community in Asia and the Pacific, held in Takayama, Japan, in November 2009.

135. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of the Republic of Korea to host the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, in 2012.

136. The Commission expressed its strong support of the outcome of the Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Review Regional Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and Its Regional and Global Outcomes, including the Bangkok Declaration on Beijing + 15.<sup>14</sup> Recognizing the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action<sup>15</sup> and the Bangkok Declaration, the Commission called upon the secretariat to provide further support to Governments in that area of work.

137. The Commission noted several key challenges facing the region, including the situation of women in poverty and women with disabilities; trafficking in women and girls and international migration; violence against women; women and HIV/AIDS; and high maternal mortality rates. It took note of the range of measures undertaken by Governments in the region to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. They included the further strengthening of national gender equality policies, strategies and programmes; the promotion of the role of women in leadership and decision-making, including women's representation in national parliaments; the enhancement of women's role in the economy, including through microfinancing initiatives; the adoption of gender-responsive budgeting;

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Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/APDDP/4/Rev.1) (see also Commission resolution 59/3 of 4 September 2003).

<sup>12</sup> Biwako Plus Five: Further Efforts towards an Inclusive, Barrier-Free and Rights-Based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/APDDP(2)/2).

<sup>13</sup> General Assembly resolution 61/106, annex I.

<sup>14</sup> E/ESCAP/66/14, chap. I.

<sup>15</sup> *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

the development of national action plans to implement the relevant Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security; and plans to convene a regional conference on women and urban development.

138. Support was expressed by one delegation for the role of the Executive Secretary of ESCAP as Chair of the regional coordination mechanism, including its work in the Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in promoting United Nations system-wide policy coherence at the regional level.

139. The Commission took note of the process of rapid demographic change and population ageing in several countries in the region. The Government of China expressed its interest in collaborating with the secretariat in promoting regional cooperation in the areas of education and health care for older persons.

140. The Commission recognized the importance of international migration and its contribution to development. The Russian Federation indicated that it was financing a project to promote regional cooperation in international migration and remittances among countries in the region.

141. The representative of the United Nations Population Fund expressed her appreciation to the secretariat of ESCAP for having organized the Asia-Pacific High-level Forum on ICPD at 15: Accelerating Progress towards the ICPD and Millennium Development Goals, which had been held in Bangkok on 16 and 17 September 2009. She urged Governments to further invest financial and human resources to reduce maternal mortality effectively. The representative noted that systematic efforts to promote gender equality and women's empowerment would contribute to a reduction in poverty and maternal mortality and the achievement of reproductive health. She noted that the sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference would provide an opportunity to consider those and other important population and development issues.

142. The representative of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) stressed that the region had an opportunity to influence the future progression of HIV in Asia and the Pacific. Noting the recommendations of the Commission on AIDS in Asia and the Commission on AIDS in the Pacific, the representative urged Governments to consider a region-specific response that would contribute to achieving national and regional social, health and economic goals. He suggested that it would be timely for ESCAP and its secretariat to work closely with UNAIDS to support progress towards universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support, particularly for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

143. The Commission noted the generous financial contributions of the Governments of China, Japan, the

Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation to the work of the secretariat in the field of social development.

144. The Commission adopted the following resolutions:

(a) Resolution 66/9 on the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its regional and global outcomes in the Asia-Pacific region;

(b) Resolution 66/10 on the regional call for action to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support in Asia and the Pacific;

(c) Resolution 66/11 on regional preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012;

(d) Resolution 66/12 on the sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference.

#### **Sub-item (h) Statistics**

145. In addition to the common documents being considered under agenda item 3, the Commission had before it the report of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/66/15 and Corr. 1).

146. Representatives of the following countries made statements: Bangladesh; China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Mongolia; Philippines; Republic of Korea; and Russian Federation.

147. The Commission emphasized the importance of statistics development in the region through methodological work and technical cooperation on increasing capacity for collecting data and producing, analysing and disseminating statistics and indicators in support of evidence-based policy formulation, the analysis of development trends and the monitoring of progress in achieving development goals.

148. The Commission expressed appreciation to the secretariat for recognizing the importance of the role of subprogramme 7, Statistics, including the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), in supporting economic and social development in the region. In that regard, some delegations shared experiences on their efforts to improve national statistics and urged the secretariat to continue according priority to the programme of work of the subprogramme and the support it extended to capacity-building for national statistical offices.

149. The Commission expressed support to the secretariat for its work in the area of statistics development, especially in improving the measurements

of informal employment and the economic contribution of the informal sector and the collection of data on disability.

150. With regard to proposed future areas of work, one delegation expressed concern that the work on gender statistics might be duplicating the work of other United Nations bodies. The secretariat clarified that the proposed programme of work would be taking forward global initiatives prioritized by the United Nations Statistical Commission by implementing them at the regional level, taking into account specific regional realities and country needs. The secretariat further clarified that its technical cooperation strategy would ensure that the work would be carried out in close coordination and collaboration with international and regional statistics development partners.

151. The Commission noted the view expressed that the secretariat should continue its close collaboration in statistical work with subregional statistical entities.

152. The Commission expressed interest in seeing new areas of developmental work for subprogramme 7, Statistics, including statistics on infrastructure and the development of new training curricula. It was recalled that the Committee on Poverty Reduction had identified the need for a regional action plan to improve poverty statistics.<sup>16</sup>

153. The Commission congratulated the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on its fortieth anniversary and expressed strong appreciation for the fact that the capabilities of national statisticians had been improved through the training programmes of the Institute.

154. The Commission expressed its support for the new directions incorporated into the work programme of SIAP for academic years 2010-2014 endorsed by the Governing Council at its fifth session, which emphasized skills-based training and the further development of the e-learning mode for the delivery of training.

155. Several delegations expressed continued interest in working closely with SIAP to conduct country-level training, including through the provision of national training facilities for hosting subregional and regional training courses.

156. The representative of Japan, the host country of SIAP, expressed appreciation for the contributions made to the Institute by members and associate members as well as international organizations. Some delegations called on all members and associate members to increase their sense of ownership of SIAP; increased

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<sup>16</sup> See the report of the Committee on Poverty Reduction on its first session (E/ESCAP/1306), para. 8.



financial support to the Institute would allow it to sustain and expand its training activities.

157. The Commission noted that, in response to Commission resolution 65/2 on regional technical cooperation and capacity-building in statistics development in Asia and the Pacific, some member States had increased their cash contributions to SIAP.

158. Several delegations expressed their interest in serving as members and being elected to the Governing Council of SIAP.

159. The Commission elected, along with the host country, Japan, the following countries to the SIAP Governing Council for the period 2010-2015: Australia; China; India; Indonesia; Malaysia; Pakistan; Republic of Korea; and Thailand.

**Sub-item (i)**  
**Subregional activities for development**

160. In addition to the common documents being considered under agenda item 3, the Commission had before it the report of the 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 (E/ESCAP/66/16).

161. Representatives of the following countries made statements: China; India; Japan; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; and Thailand.

162. The Commission welcomed the establishment of the subregional offices for East and North-East Asia, North and Central Asia, and South and South-West Asia, which, as an integral part of ESCAP, would address different development priorities in each subregion, promote subregional cooperation for advancing sustainable development and enhance the visibility of the Commission's work.

163. The Commission generally endorsed the report of the 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 and the recommendations contained therein. In response to the decision of the fifteenth Senior Officials Meeting of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC), the Commission noted that the Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia would function as the secretariat of NEASPEC.

164. The Commission noted that the subregional offices should avoid duplicating the work of other United Nations entities and partner organizations, seek synergies with all ESCAP subsidiary bodies and carry out their activities within the framework of existing mandates and the work programme of the ESCAP

secretariat. The Commission also noted that the operation of the subregional offices should be conducted in a transparent and accountable manner.

165. The Commission noted a proposal to include a technical cooperation project on cooperation mechanisms to promote infrastructure development in South and South-West Asia, with a focus on transport, specifically trade and transport facilitation, including connectivity.

166. The Commission noted the heavy workload of and the areas of subregional cooperation to be addressed by the Subregional Office for North and Central Asia, and the need for consistency in staffing levels among subregional offices in order to balance the workload.

167. The Commission noted the progress achieved in finalizing institutional and administrative arrangements, including the host country agreements, for opening all three subregional offices.

168. The Commission adopted resolution 66/13 on strengthening regional cooperation in North and Central Asia.

**Agenda item 4**  
**Management issues**

**Sub-item (a)**  
**Evaluations: report on evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2008-2009 and outcome of the evaluations of APCICT and SIAP**

169. The Commission had before it the report on evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2008-2009 (E/ESCAP/66/17 and Corr.1), the report on the evaluation of APCICT (E/ESCAP/66/18) and the management response to the evaluation (E/ESCAP/66/18/Add.1), and the report on the evaluation of SIAP (E/ESCAP/66/19 and Add.1).

170. Representatives of the following countries made statements: Bangladesh; Cambodia; Fiji; Indonesia; Japan; Malaysia; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Sri Lanka; Thailand; and Timor-Leste.

171. Expressing appreciation for the achievements and relevance of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (APCICT) and noting the positive outcome of the evaluation contained in document E/ESCAP/66/18, the Commission expressed full support for the continued operation of APCICT in line with its established principles.

172. Noting the analysis of the operations contained in document E/ESCAP/66/19/Add.1, the Commission acknowledged the strategic importance of SIAP. It

encouraged the use of the report and its recommendations in further guiding the work of SIAP, especially by the Governing Council of SIAP.

173. In referring to the report on the evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2008-2009 (E/ESCAP/66/17 and Corr.1), the Commission recognized the relevance and importance of evaluation and the use of evaluation results for prioritizing and consolidating activities, and expressed its support for the continued strengthening of the evaluation function of ESCAP.

174. The Commission adopted resolutions 66/14 on the continuation of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development and 66/15 on the strengthening of the evaluation function of the secretariat of the Commission.

**Sub-item (b)**  
**Programme changes for the biennium 2010-2011**

175. The Commission had before it a note by the secretariat containing the proposed programme changes for the biennium 2010-2011 (E/ESCAP/66/20).

176. The Commission was informed that the proposed programme changes would contribute to the achievement of the expected accomplishments and had no additional regular programme budget implications for the biennium 2010-2011.

177. The Commission was informed that the programme of work for 2010-2011 pertaining to subregional activities for development, which had been endorsed by the Commission at its sixty-fifth session, could accommodate the priority areas identified by the 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, held in Bangkok from 2 to 4 March 2010 (see E/ESCAP/66/16). With regard to a proposal to include a technical cooperation project on cooperation mechanisms to promote infrastructure development in South and South-West Asia (see E/ESCAP/66/16, para. 12), the Commission noted that the proposed output would be incorporated into the draft programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013.

178. The Commission endorsed the proposed programme changes for the biennium 2010-2011 set out in the document under consideration.

**Sub-item (c)**  
**Draft strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013**

179. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/66/21, containing the draft strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013.

180. Representatives of the following countries made statements: Malaysia; Pakistan; Russian Federation; and Thailand.

181. The Commission was informed that the draft strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013 had been developed through close partnerships between the secretariat and member States, building on the mission of ESCAP to promote regional cooperation and collective action to achieve a more inclusive and sustainable future for the people of Asia and the Pacific. The Commission was also informed that the document reflected the outcomes of the prior reviews undertaken by the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on the New ESCAP Subregional Offices and by the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission at its two special sessions.

182. Noting the importance of achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific by 2015 and the need to address challenges related to aid effectiveness, the Commission endorsed the draft strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013, with the following modification:

**Subprogramme 8**  
**Component 2: subregional activities for development in East and North-East Asia**

Expected accomplishment (a) *should read*

- (a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, that address sustainable development, taking into account the green growth approach and energy efficiency, information and communications technology, disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management, poverty reduction and infrastructure development

**Sub-item (d)**  
**Technical cooperation activities of ESCAP and announcement of intended contributions**

183. The Commission had before it the overview of technical cooperation activities and extrabudgetary contributions (E/ESCAP/66/22).

184. Representatives of the following countries made statements: China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Malaysia; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; and Thailand.

185. The Commission noted that the aim of technical cooperation work was to: (a) develop the capacity of member States to formulate and implement effective, inclusive and sustainable development policies and programmes; (b) reduce development gaps; (c) build resilience; and (d) support member States in achieving their development goals.

186. The Commission was informed that the secretariat had received new contributions for technical cooperation activities in 2009 from the regular budget as well as voluntary sources that had amounted to approximately \$15.8 million, with a total technical cooperation delivery of \$19.6 million.

187. The Executive Secretary highlighted achievements during 2009 that included completion of the 2009 regional report on the Millennium Development Goals in partnership with the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.<sup>17</sup> The report identified key strategies that supported: (a) the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in response to the global economic crisis; (b) engagement in a high-level dialogue with the Government of Myanmar on rural livelihoods and poverty reduction with economist and Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz; (c) the enhancement of regional connectivity and integration through transport connectivity and road safety, with a deepening of regional cooperation and research on trade and capacity-building in information and communications technology; and (d) administration of the Multi-Donor Voluntary Trust Fund on Tsunami Early Warning Arrangements in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia, which had supported the implementation of 14 projects by Governments and non-governmental and other organizations with disbursements of \$9.9 million.

188. The Commission was informed that the secretariat continued to ensure system-wide coherence at the regional level by creating synergies with United Nations entities through the Asia-Pacific regional coordination mechanism and its relationship with the United Nations Development Group.

189. The Commission noted with appreciation the technical cooperation work of the secretariat, including the activities of the five ESCAP regional institutions, especially with regard to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

190. The Commission also noted the following contributions pledged by members and associate members of ESCAP for 2010.

191. *Bangladesh.* The Government of Bangladesh had notified the secretariat in writing that it would contribute the following amounts to regional institutions:

APCICT	\$5 000
APCTT	\$5 000
CAPSA	\$1 000

<sup>17</sup> *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in an Era of Global Uncertainty: Asia-Pacific Regional Report 2009/10* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.II.F.15).

SIAP	\$3 000
UNAPCAEM	\$3 000
Tsunami Trust Fund	\$10 000

192. *China.* The delegation of China announced that its Government would contribute 1.5 million yuan renminbi and \$150,000 to the China-ESCAP Cooperation Programme.

193. The delegation of China also announced that its Government would continue to support the work of APCTT, SIAP and UNAPCAEM, and that China would continue to support cooperation with ESCAP through national and provincial institutions.

194. *India.* The delegation of India announced that its Government would contribute the following amounts to regional institutions:

APCTT	\$200 000
APCICT	\$10 000
SIAP	\$25 000
UNAPCAEM	\$15 000
ESCAP Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia	\$154 000

195. In addition, the delegation of India announced that its Government would contribute \$250,000 towards the implementation of resolution 64/3 of 30 April 2008 on promoting renewables for energy security and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, of which \$75,000 had already been released, and \$321,750 to APCTT for the promotion of national innovation systems, of which \$121,750 would be released in 2010.

196. *Indonesia.* The delegation of Indonesia announced that its Government would contribute the following amounts to regional institutions:

APCTT	\$10 000
CAPSA	Rp 767 000 000
SIAP	\$20 000
UNAPCAEM	\$29 982

197. In addition, the delegation of Indonesia announced that its Government intended to make a contribution in kind equivalent to \$230,000 to the APCICT Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders.

198. *Iran (Islamic Republic of).* The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran had notified the secretariat in writing that it would contribute the following amounts:

ESCAP programme of work	\$26 000
APCTT	\$10 000

SIAP	\$12 000
UNAPCAEM	\$12 000

199. *Japan*. The delegation of Japan announced that its Government would contribute the following amounts for the period from April 2010 to March 2011:

Japan-ESCAP Cooperation Fund	\$100 000
SIAP	\$1 680 500

200. In addition, the delegation of Japan announced that its Government intended to make a contribution in kind equivalent to \$1,229,085 to SIAP for the period from April 2010 through March 2011. In addition, as part of its technical cooperation programme through the Japan International Cooperation Agency in cooperation with SIAP, the Government of Japan intended to provide fellowships for 71 individuals.

201. *Macao, China*. The government of Macao, China, had notified the secretariat that it would contribute the following amounts to regional institutions:

APCICT	\$5 000
APCTT	\$5 000
CAPSA	\$3 000
SIAP	\$18 000

202. *Malaysia*. The delegation of Malaysia announced that its Government would contribute the following amounts to regional institutions:

APCTT	\$15 000
CAPSA	\$10 000
SIAP	\$20 000

203. *Mongolia*. The Government of Mongolia had notified the secretariat that it would contribute \$5,000 to the ESCAP programme of work.

204. *Pakistan*. The Government of Pakistan had notified the secretariat that it would contribute the following amounts to regional institutions:

APCICT	\$7 500
SIAP	\$15 000

205. *Philippines*. The Government of the Philippines had notified the secretariat that it would contribute the following amounts:

ESCAP programme of work	\$43 000
South-South cooperation	\$6 000
APCTT	\$5 400
CAPSA	\$10 500
SIAP	\$16 100
UNAPCAEM	\$2 000

206. *Republic of Korea*. The delegation of the Republic of Korea reaffirmed the strong support of its Government for ESCAP technical cooperation activities through the Republic of Korea-ESCAP Cooperation Fund with a contribution of \$300,000. The delegation informed the Commission that its general voluntary contribution to ESCAP for 2010 would be greater than its 2009 contribution of approximately \$3.5 million.

207. *Russian Federation*. The delegation of the Russian Federation informed the Commission that its Government would make a voluntary annual contribution of \$1.2 million, including a contribution of \$30,000 to SIAP.

208. *Thailand*. The delegation of Thailand announced that its Government would contribute the following amounts to regional institutions:

APCTT	\$15 000
CAPSA	\$10 000
SIAP	\$20 000
UNAPCAEM	\$15 000
CCOP	\$40 000
Typhoon Committee	\$12 000
Tropical Cyclone Trust Fund	\$2 000
Pacific Trust Fund	\$1 000
Trust fund for disadvantaged economies in transition and Mongolia	\$2 000

209. In conclusion, the secretariat thanked the Commission for the continued strong support of the secretariat's technical cooperation programme and it thanked ESCAP members and associate members which had pledged financial support for 2010.

#### **Agenda item 5 Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission**

210. The Commission had before it the report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (ACPR) (E/ESCAP/66/23 and Corr.1). In his capacity as Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee, the Permanent Representative of Nepal to ESCAP presented highlights of the Committee's activities during the preceding year.

211. Since the sixty-fifth session of the Commission, ACPR had held six regular sessions, two special sessions and four meetings of the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions.

212. A key focus of the work of the Advisory Committee during the period under review had been to provide the secretariat of ESCAP with guidance on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Commission at its sixty-fifth session, including resolution 65/1 on the implementation of the Bali Outcome Document in addressing the food, fuel and financial crises.

213. The Advisory Committee had also considered other outcomes of the sixty-fifth session of the Commission, including the convening of the Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries in its elevated status as an integral part of the Commission session.

214. The Advisory Committee had reviewed the draft strategic framework for ESCAP for the biennium 2012-2013 (E/ESCAP/66/21) and provided suggestions for changes that had been presented to the Commission.

215. The secretariat had briefed the Advisory Committee on the outcome of the review by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions of the programme budget of ESCAP for the biennium 2010-2011.<sup>18</sup>

216. The secretariat had also continued to inform the Advisory Committee about the start-up of the three new subregional offices of ESCAP, which had been approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/260 of 24 December 2008 on development-related activities.

217. The Commission noted the important role of ACPR in the constructive dialogue between member States and the secretariat, and as an effective channel for the preparation of the programme budget, the monitoring of activities and the assessment of the Commission's annual sessions.

218. The Commission expressed its desire to further strengthen cooperation among ACPR members and between ACPR and the secretariat in the preparation of Commission sessions.

219. The Commission requested the secretariat to adhere to the rules of procedure as they pertained to the issuance of documents and studies, in particular the *Economic and Social Survey for Asia and the Pacific* and the theme study for the annual sessions of the Commission.

<sup>18</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/64/7).

## **Agenda item 6**

### **Dates, venue and theme topic for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission (April/May 2011)**

220. The Commission had before it a note by the secretariat entitled "Dates, venue and theme topic for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission (2011)" (E/ESCAP/66/24).

221. Representatives of the following countries made statements: China; Indonesia; Japan; Pakistan; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Sri Lanka; Thailand; and Timor-Leste.

222. The Commission decided to hold its sixty-seventh session in Bangkok in April/May 2011. The exact dates would be determined in consultation with the ACPR.

223. With regard to the theme topic for the sixty-seventh session, two alternative topics were proposed for consideration, namely:

- (a) Beyond the crises: long-term perspectives on social protection and development;
- (b) Towards regional integration: connectivity for inclusive and resilient development.

224. Taking into account the wide preference indicated by countries, the Commission endorsed "Beyond the crises: long-term perspectives on social protection and development" as the theme topic for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission, with consideration of the economic aspects of social protection. The outline of the study would be provided to ACPR for its review.

225. Given the importance of regional integration and connectivity, the Commission invited the secretariat to provide further analysis of that topic, in particular through the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*.

## **Agenda item 7**

### **Policy issues for the Asia-Pacific region**

#### **Sub-item (a)**

#### **Key challenges to inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific**

#### **Policy statement by the Executive Secretary**

226. The Executive Secretary delivered a policy statement encompassing the main findings of the *Economic and Social Survey 2010*<sup>19</sup> and *Financing an*

<sup>19</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.II.F.2.

*Inclusive and Green Future: A Supportive Financial System and Green Growth for Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific,*<sup>20</sup> two ESCAP publications that had been prepared for consideration under agenda items 7 and 8, respectively.

227. The Executive Secretary underlined that the region was now in the midst of a V-shaped recovery from the global economic crisis, supported by massive fiscal stimulus packages. She noted, however, that the recovery was fragile and was subject to a number of short-term challenges. They included rising inflationary pressures, especially in food prices, growing asset price bubbles and appreciating exchange rates. Maintaining the growth momentum would require a tenacious balancing act on the fiscal and monetary policy fronts and would make 2010 a year of complex policymaking. Another threat to growth was the return of enormous short-term capital flows to the emerging markets in the region resulting from a massive expansion of liquidity in the advanced countries in the wake of the crisis. Capital controls should be considered, where necessary, to moderate those inflows.

228. The Executive Secretary also underlined that, beyond the short-term challenges, the key issue for the region was the need to develop new sources of demand that would make up for the shortfall in advanced economies, such as the United States of America.

229. The Executive Secretary expressed concern that 11 Asia-Pacific countries were likely to miss the income-poverty target of the Millennium Development Goals. ESCAP analysis showed that the rate of poverty reduction could be accelerated significantly by ensuring that inequalities did not worsen with the growth process and that household consumption increased. More inclusive development policies would achieve that goal. Closing the other Millennium Development Goal gaps would require additional resources, on the order of \$636 billion over the period 2010-2015. That figure might not seem daunting for the region, but, for some of the poorer countries, it was steep in proportion to gross domestic product.

230. Funding to close those gaps was available through a combination of domestic and international sources, which should be used to fund Millennium Development Goal priorities. At the national level, fully exploiting the fiscal space for Millennium Development Goal funding, reorienting public expenditure through public-private partnerships, augmenting government revenue by widening the tax base and making fiscal incentives development-friendly could all help. At the international level, apart from official development assistance, South-South cooperation and intraregional foreign direct investment flows offered growing opportunities, and a global financial transaction tax

could moderate the volatility of short-term capital flows while generating billions of dollars in revenue; both were worthy of further consideration.

231. With foreign exchange reserves of \$5 trillion, the region had the ability to develop a more ambitious financial architecture that could help prevent and manage crises and unleash the potential aggregate demand in less developed parts of the region in addition to helping to close the development gaps.

232. The Executive Secretary underlined that, apart from mobilizing funds, countries should ensure that financial services reached out to the millions of “unbanked” people. That would require involving different types of financial institutions while also widening the range of financial services available to the poor by covering the five “micros”: micro-savings, microcredit, micro-repayments, micro-remittances and micro-insurance.

233. Another important engine for creating inclusive growth was the strengthening of social protection. The Asia-Pacific region currently had a number of examples of ambitious social protection programmes—in Thailand, India, Indonesia and the Philippines, for example—which should be redoubled and deepened to sustain a trajectory of moving from poverty to human security.

234. Development could also be made more inclusive by increasing agricultural growth, given that the majority of poor people lived in rural areas and derived most of their income from agriculture. A new, more knowledge-intensive green revolution was required that combined advances in science and agricultural engineering with the region’s unique traditional knowledge to make agriculture more environmentally resilient.

235. A major challenge for the region was to ensure that growth was sustainable as natural resources dwindled. With the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea, ESCAP was developing a low-carbon, green growth road map for East Asia, which would assist member countries in integrating development and climate challenges. Enhancing the eco-efficiency of resource use would need to be promoted consciously through a strategic industrial policy approach and through incentives and regulations. The Executive Secretary emphasized the importance of providing technology and finance to developing countries to facilitate environmental sustainability following the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

236. She then outlined the contours of a regional framework for cooperative action to ensure the goal of inclusive and sustainable development for all member countries. Apart from the above-mentioned need to

<sup>20</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.II.F.4.

develop a regional financial architecture, the other key elements were:

(a) *Deepening regional economic integration*: a more integrated regional market could be developed by accelerating progress on two current overlapping proposals, as they could serve as stepping stones to an even broader, unified Asia-Pacific market and an economic community: the “East Asia free trade agreement”, covering the ASEAN+3 grouping, and the “comprehensive economic partnership of East Asia” of the East Asia Summit, covering the ASEAN+6 grouping;

(b) *Improving transport connectivity*: the ESCAP secretariat was helping the region deepen integration by, among other things, promoting public-private partnerships to foster infrastructure investment, establishing an integrated, multimodal transport system, such as through building intermodal transfer points also known as dry ports, and building on its Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks. In addition, ESCAP, along with the Asian Development Bank, was assisting ASEAN in developing a connectivity master plan.

237. In concluding, the Executive Secretary stated that the region had an historic opportunity to forge ahead on an inclusive and sustainable development agenda with regional cooperation. The secretariat, as the regional arm of the United Nations, and the all-inclusive forum for Asia and the Pacific, stood ready to provide the analysis, and facilitate the policy consensus, to achieve that objective. She thanked the member States for supporting the efforts of the secretariat and pledged to stand ready to fulfil their highest expectations in the year ahead.

#### **Summary of messages from the High-level Panel on Sustaining the Recovery and Dynamism for Inclusive Development**

238. The High-level Panel on Sustaining the Recovery and Dynamism for Inclusive Development focused on the policy challenges the region faced as it led the world economy in recovery from the global financial crisis. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP made introductory remarks, highlighting the key areas of concern for economies in the short and medium term, and served as moderator of the panel. The panellists were:

- ◆ Mr. Nickel Lee Hang, Finance Minister, Samoa
- ◆ Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Adviser to the Prime Minister, Pakistan
- ◆ Mr. Cheick Sidi Diarra, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

- ◆ Mr. C. Lawrence Greenwood, Vice-President, Asian Development Bank

239. The Executive Secretary highlighted the need for major policy reforms in the region to sustain the recovery in the medium term by spurring new engines of growth which could supplement the constrained import demand of developed countries. The main source of increased domestic demand could be through policies to increase the income of the close to 1 billion people still living in poverty in the region, as well as by closing other development gaps. Effective policies to achieve those objectives would include increasing social protection, financing development gaps, improving agricultural and rural development, promoting new environmentally friendly innovations and industries, and enhancing financial inclusion. The region should also adopt policies designed to turn it into an even greater economic powerhouse by creating a more integrated and connected regional market. Particular areas of action could include increasing regional economic integration, strengthening regional connectivity and trade facilitation, and exploiting the potential of regional financial cooperation to provide efficient intermediation between the region’s savings and its development gaps.

240. Mr. Lee Hang was of the view that a sustained recovery of the current rebound in economic growth being experienced in the Asia-Pacific region would require a rebalancing of relations to a fairer and more equitable process of development. In that regard, Pacific island developing countries continued to suffer from a number of development gaps linked to smallness, isolation and growing ecological and human vulnerabilities. In an effort to address those common problems and utilize emerging opportunities more effectively, Pacific island economies had committed to a new Pacific integration initiative through the Pacific Plan based on three pillars, namely regional economic cooperation, the regional provision of services and regional market integration. Good governance was a key element of that regional integration process, and, in that regard, he expressed appreciation for the donor support provided for the set-up of various Pacific regional institutions. Finally, he underlined the need for broad-based consultations to achieve a consensus for change for the better. Initiatives for regional connectivity needed to be underpinned by social connectivity.

241. Ms. Wazir Ali was of the view that the South Asian subregion had in recent years experienced successes and breakthroughs with policy approaches founded on an integrated human development paradigm, placing social capital as the fundamental driver of economic transformation. Policy approaches that had emphasized social investments, supported by diversified strategies and implemented in a decentralized manner to the district level, had yielded results that were bridging development gaps and moving some countries closer to achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Nevertheless, there remained policy gaps in the

principles, design and delivery of social policies. Social exclusion appeared particularly tenacious in Asia and was due to a host of factors, including poverty, inequity, political instability and injustice. Social exclusion expressed itself in different forms, such as ethnic strife, sectarianism and extremism. Pakistan had implemented large-scale programmes for health coverage and access to schooling. The call for political commitment to ensure education and health for all had brought about substantial progress in South Asia.

242. Mr. Sidi Diarra emphasized that, although the region as a whole had recovered well from the crisis, the picture was very different for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States: for those countries, the crisis persisted and had exacerbated the considerable challenges they faced in meeting the Millennium Development Goals. For some of those countries, trade had collapsed, which had decreased employment in export-oriented industries and decreased government revenues, leading to constrained social spending. The crisis had illustrated the need for many of those countries to move away from a growth model of dependence on exporting natural resources through the diversification of export products and a move up in the value chain. The Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, which was scheduled to be held in 2011, should address some key questions to enable the meeting to be a real turning point in the prospects for those countries. Some key issues which should be addressed were: the development of productive capacities; the mobilization of resources from a wider variety of sources, including domestic savings, to be used for the productive sector; agricultural development to remove food insecurity; enhanced and predictable market access to increase participation in global trade; and increased support for climate resilience and for pursuing low-emission green growth strategies.

243. Mr. Greenwood underlined that, while the region had demonstrated its resilience during the crisis and the ongoing recovery, sustainable growth in the region would require the rebalancing of economies in favour of domestic and regional consumption. Among the strategies to promote such rebalancing were: (a) utilizing macroeconomic policies, such as returning to prudent fiscal and monetary policies, controlling asset price bubbles and pursuing exchange rate flexibility; (b) increasing domestic and regional demand by removing distortions that favoured exports, boosting the service sector and increasing incentives for green economy initiatives; (c) enhancing social policies by increasing formal social safety nets; (d) reforming the financial sector through banking reforms and the development of bond markets; and (e) pursuing regional cooperation and integration through, among other things, improved connectivity, cooperation in crisis prevention, and exchange rate flexibility and cooperation.

#### **Sub-item (b)** **Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2010**

244. The Commission had before it the summary of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2010* (E/ESCAP/66/25).

245. Representatives of the following members and associate members made statements: Afghanistan; Armenia; Australia; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; Fiji; France; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Kazakhstan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nauru; Nepal; Pakistan; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Samoa; Singapore; Solomon Islands; Thailand; Turkey; Tuvalu; United States of America; Viet Nam; and Hong Kong, China.

246. The Commission expressed appreciation for the timely and visionary findings and recommendations contained in the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2010*.<sup>21</sup>

247. The Commission noted that the region was witnessing the signs of an economic rebound in 2010 following the global economic crisis. It also noted that the region as a whole had withstood the global economic crisis in 2009 better than other regions of the world, and was also projected to display a higher growth rate during the recovery in 2010. The region had emerged as a growth engine of the global economy. The relatively strong growth of the region during the crisis had been a result of the strong macroeconomic fundamentals of many countries, as well as the adoption by countries of proactive fiscal stimulus packages and accommodative monetary policies.

248. The Commission was of the view that, despite the overall resilience of the region during the crisis, there was considerable divergence in terms of performance across countries. Many had been severely impacted, depending on their exposure to external shocks. Declining manufactured exports, the falling prices of some commodities, reduced foreign direct investment flows, an increase in the cost of international capital and a decline in tourism receipts, as well as remittances, had had a negative impact on many countries, in particular the landlocked developing countries, countries with economies in transition, the least developed countries and Pacific island developing countries. Considerable uncertainties remained for the region with regard to the unfolding global economic recovery process.

249. The Commission noted that the positive performance of the region indicated its growing self-

<sup>21</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.II.F.2.



reliance. To sustain regional dynamism, countries needed a new growth strategy beyond the crisis. The Commission was of the view that regional cooperation should be enhanced in an open and transparent manner, while existing frameworks should be used to support the growing interdependence of countries. The Commission noted that it could make valuable contributions to the process.

250. The Commission underlined the need for strengthened regional cooperation in the areas of regional connectivity, macroeconomic policy coordination, the extension of regional trade and investment agreements beyond tariff liberalization, and the evolution of a regional financial architecture for channelling regional savings to regional investment needs, including infrastructure development, among others.

251. The Commission acknowledged the efforts made by the secretariat to strengthen the role of the Pacific island developing countries within the Commission and build expanded relationships with countries in Asia through South-South cooperation and the optimum use of the Commission's intergovernmental processes. Some delegations highlighted the need for better data to track the progress of Pacific island developing countries towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development and requested the assistance of the secretariat in strengthening national statistical systems.

252. The Commission recognized the important role that ICT played in supporting economic growth and the development of a knowledge-based economy. It acknowledged that the lack of communications facilities in rural areas represented a key bottleneck in terms of making progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals on the part of ESCAP developing member countries. In that context, the Commission was informed of the need to harness skills in order to utilize information and knowledge more effectively for socio-economic development. Affordable and faster ICT services were recognized as having numerous developmental benefits, in particular for Pacific small island countries, landlocked developing countries and least developed countries. Given the high investment costs entailed in building up ICT infrastructure, in particular in small island developing economies, the secretariat was requested to provide technical assistance and capacity-building for ICT through South-South cooperation.

253. Several delegations expressed appreciation to APCICT for its work and requested continued support for ICT capacity-building. The delegation of the Republic of Korea informed the Commission that it would continue to support and strengthen the activities of APCICT, whose contribution to the region's socio-economic development had been acknowledged by member countries through the continuation of the

Centre's operation beyond 2011.

254. The Commission noted the importance of disaster risk reduction and management in the region, with some delegations underlining its relevance in the context of climate change adaptation. The delegation of Samoa expressed appreciation for the support provided by the Commission, the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank in conducting the damage and loss assessment following the tsunami disaster of September 2009.

255. The Commission noted the high priority attached by countries in the region to the development of the transport sector, which would contribute to sustained recovery from the current financial crisis and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by improving access to social and economic services, generating employment opportunities and contributing to regional integration. It noted the high demand for transport and ICT infrastructure, in particular in the Pacific island developing countries, where a large proportion of the population lived in isolated areas or small islands that were prone to natural disasters.

256. The Commission noted the request of some delegations that the secretariat continue to provide technical assistance and promote support from development partners and the private sector for investments to enhance intermodal transport connectivity for the Pacific. The Commission also noted the importance of cross-border connectivity for landlocked developing countries, providing links to the region's growth centres and thus transforming them from landlocked into land-linking countries. The Commission noted that regional connectivity would not only cover the development of physical infrastructure, such as intermodal transport and ICT, but would also include people-to-people exchanges and institutional reform.

257. The Commission noted with satisfaction the secretariat's efforts to develop an international integrated intermodal transport and logistics system based on the Asian Highway network and the Trans-Asian Railway network, with the plan to develop an intergovernmental agreement on dry ports forming a third element. Together with the Euro-Asian transport linkages, such a system would contribute to the further expansion of intraregional and interregional trade and regional cooperation. In that connection, the Commission noted with appreciation the support of the Government of the Russian Federation for the projects on transport, energy, environment, ICT and the reduction of natural disasters.

258. The Commission noted the important role that could be played by innovative forms of financing, including public-private partnerships and infrastructure funds, which could promote development and regional connectivity. The Commission noted with interest that,

following the successful outcome of the second Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Public Private-Partnership for Infrastructure Development, held in Jakarta in April 2010, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran had offered to host the third Conference.

259. The Commission recognized that regional economic cooperation and connectivity were important mechanisms—complementing global economic relations—for promoting trade and investment, which continued to drive economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region. In that regard, it noted that regional economic integration initiatives were already progressing beyond commitments in trade and investment. The Commission underlined the need for a fair, open and transparent system for global trade and investment that could allow developing countries to trade themselves out of poverty. In that regard, it supported an early conclusion of the Doha Development Agenda<sup>22</sup> with a balanced outcome.

260. The Commission observed that some countries were facing difficulties in generating the revenue they needed to meet the Millennium Development Goals as a result of tariff preference erosion and declines in inflows of foreign direct investment and official development assistance. The Commission underscored the need to enhance trade facilitation through the removal of administrative and procedural barriers to global and regional trade. The Commission noted the initiatives that various countries had implemented to stimulate private sector investment, in particular for small and medium-sized enterprises through microcredit and other schemes to promote such enterprises.

261. The Commission noted that while substantial progress had been made in the region towards closing development gaps through the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the global crisis risked undermining the advances of the past decade and further exacerbating the difficulties that many countries were facing in meeting some of the Goals. Several delegations identified HIV/AIDS as a key challenge and informed the Commission about the steps their Governments were taking to reduce the spread of the disease. The Commission also welcomed the decision to hold the Regional High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, in the Republic of Korea in 2012. The Commission acknowledged the progress made by countries in the region, with the support of ESCAP, in protecting and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities during the Decade, guided by the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and

the Pacific<sup>23</sup> and Biwako Plus Five: Further Efforts towards an Inclusive, Barrier-Free and Rights-Based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific.<sup>24</sup> The Commission reaffirmed the centrality of gender equality and women's empowerment to the strengthening of social capital and the achievement of inclusive and sustainable development. Several delegations informed the Commission of progress achieved in their countries through the adoption of a range of policy and programme interventions, including steps to increase the percentage of women in government at the national and local levels, the achievement of gender parity in basic education and reductions in maternal mortality rates. Some delegations emphasized the importance of ensuring that gender equality would be a core element of social protection policies and programmes.

262. The Commission reaffirmed the importance of addressing environmental concerns in pursuit of economic development and inclusive growth. Several delegations noted that the interlinked challenges of climate change, energy security and the sustainable and efficient use of natural resources required further work on building mutually beneficial synergies. Such strategies could help countries to become more resilient to both external and internal shocks.

263. Some delegations highlighted the role that the secretariat had played in promoting energy security and initiatives on renewable energy development and, in that respect, requested the secretariat to continue to facilitate the exchange of information on renewable energy and waste management technologies, as well as water and sanitation. The Commission noted various national pilot or mainstreamed initiatives that promoted the use of renewable energy and sustainable water resources management, including hydropower.

264. The Commission stressed that regional cooperation should evolve as a complement to full participation in global economic relations. In that regard, the region could provide important inputs to the Group of 20 (G-20). The secretariat, in view of its expertise in the area of socio-economic development in the region, could make valuable contributions to the G-20 summit to be held in Seoul in November 2010.

265. The Commission welcomed the establishment of the three new subregional offices and noted that the offices would bring ESCAP activities closer to the people of the region and make valuable contributions as centres of subregional cooperation for the development of the region.

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<sup>22</sup> See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

<sup>23</sup> E/ESCAP/APDDP/4/Rev.1 (see also Commission resolution 59/3).

<sup>24</sup> E/ESCAP/APDDP(2)/2.

## Agenda item 8

### Theme topic for the sixty-sixth session: “Addressing challenges in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals: Promoting a stable and supportive financial system; and Green Growth or environmentally sustainable economic growth, including through technology and financing”

266. The ministerial round table was chaired by Mr. Kim Jong-hoon, Minister for Trade of the Republic of Korea, and moderated by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP. The following distinguished speakers made presentations during the round table:

Keynote speaker:

- ◆ Mr. Anote Tong, President of Kiribati

Panellists:

- ◆ Ms. Armida S. Alisjahbana, State Minister, National Development Planning Board, Indonesia
- ◆ Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Assistant Foreign Minister, China
- ◆ Mr. Bakhyt Sultanov, Economic Adviser to the President and former Minister of Economy and Budget Planning, Kazakhstan
- ◆ Mr. Abdulla Shahid, State Minister of Housing, Transport and Environment, Maldives

267. Representatives of the following members and associate members of the Commission made statements: Afghanistan; Armenia; Australia; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; Fiji; France; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Kazakhstan; Kiribati; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nauru; Nepal; Pakistan; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Samoa; Singapore; Solomon Islands; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Turkey; Tuvalu; United States of America; Vanuatu; Viet Nam; and Hong Kong, China.

268. In her introductory remarks, the Executive Secretary provided a brief summary of the salient aspects of the theme study, *Financing an Inclusive and Green Future*.<sup>25</sup> The study identified gaps remaining to be filled to achieve the Millennium Development Goal targets, despite the substantial progress made by Asia-Pacific countries, and estimated the substantial financial resources needed to close the gaps. It also explored possible domestic, regional and international sources for bridging such financing gaps and considered how to make financial services inclusive and accessible for millions of unbanked poor. Finally, it discussed the

technological and financial challenges in fostering a greener or more sustainable pattern of growth, while highlighting some best practices and policies emerging in the region.

269. The Commission commended the secretariat for its preparation of document E/ESCAP/66/26 and the theme study, which was timely, comprehensive and highly pertinent given the challenges of the region in recovering from the crisis and achieving inclusive and sustainable development.

270. The Commission noted that the impact of the crisis would make it more difficult for many countries in the Asia-Pacific region to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, as it was home to close to a billion people living in poverty and was prone to natural disasters.

271. The Commission noted with concern that many countries in the region were not on track to achieve all of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. In particular, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States were constrained by many critical factors, such as a lack of adequate financial resources, technical know-how and human resources capacity, which were obstacles for the implementation of programmes and activities related to the Millennium Development Goals. Those countries were also marginalized in international trade because of their limited supply capabilities, poor infrastructure, restrictive rules in existing international trade arrangements and the erosion of trade preferences.

272. That concern was particularly serious for the Pacific small island developing States, none of which was on track to meet all of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and whose progress in that respect was further undermined by the recent fuel, food and global economic crises. The Commission noted with concern that official development assistance was insufficient to support the Pacific small island developing States in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. It also noted that more investment in infrastructure to improve connectivity could be instrumental for the achievement of the Goals in the Pacific.

273. The Commission was informed that the Government of Indonesia would host a special ministerial meeting for the review of the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific in Jakarta in August 2010, the outcome of which would be submitted to the United Nations High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals (Millennium Development Goal summit), to be held in New York in September 2010. The Commission expressed the hope that such a meeting would be able to mobilize the necessary political will to pave the way for expediting the process of achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the region.

<sup>25</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.II.F.4.

274. The Commission noted that the recent global financial crisis had exacerbated the inadequacy of domestic resources for the financing of the Goals, and that one way to overcome those obstacles was through the implementation of fiscal measures, such as expanding the tax base and reforming subsidies, such as fuel subsidies, among other measures.

275. The Commission also noted that strengthening global partnerships by ensuring that donors met their official development assistance commitments and that recipients developed strong national plans for the transparent management and effective use of donor funds was critical in financing the Millennium Development Goals. It further noted that South-South and triangular cooperation could also be very effective mechanisms to expedite progress for the achievement of the Goals.

276. The Commission noted the importance of infrastructure development to support the achievement of the Goals. The lack of appropriate infrastructure facilities had strong adverse effects on the movement of goods and services, production and transaction costs, and health and welfare, which prevented countries in the region from realizing their full development potential. The financial requirements for infrastructure investment, however, were typically much greater than the available budgetary provisions. In that context, the Commission expressed concern that financing for development efforts had been declining in the aftermath of the global financial crisis. It also noted that the promotion of innovative financial solutions, such as public-private partnerships, was necessary in order to raise more financial resources to invest in infrastructure, and to improve its efficiency and maintenance. The Commission also highlighted the need to increase efforts to foster regional cooperation in infrastructure financing and development by setting up a task force to elaborate elements of a regional financial architecture.

277. The Commission noted the need to improve the functioning of the international financial system in the aftermath of the global financial crisis. For that purpose, it put forward four proposals: (a) to increase the voice of developing countries in international financial institutions; (b) to improve standards for financial regulation; (c) to ensure the stability of reserve currencies; and (d) to strengthen the role of international financial institutions in poverty alleviation and long-term financing for development.

278. The Commission noted that a well-functioning financial system was crucial to economic growth but that it needed to be coupled with greater access to a range of appropriate financial products and services—including savings, credit and insurance—that were suitable for the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in countries of the region. The Commission welcomed the focus on more inclusive financial services as a means both to increase

investment and to alleviate poverty. In that context, the Commission noted Australia's co-chairing of the Access Through Innovation subgroup of the G-20 Financial Inclusion Experts Group, which led the work of the G-20 on improving financial access, including efforts to increase financial access for the poor.

279. The Commission was informed of several initiatives in the area of financial inclusion by member countries. For instance, in December 2009, the Government of the Republic of Korea had introduced the Smile Microcredit Bank, which provided collateral-free and liability-free loans to unbanked people to encourage them to start up and manage their own enterprises. Similarly, the Government of Brunei Darussalam had introduced the Microcredit Financing Scheme, which provided small amounts of financing, with repayment periods of up to four years.

280. The Commission noted that the next G-20 summit, to be held in Seoul in November 2010, would focus on development and the needs of the emerging and developing countries, among other issues. The Commission suggested that the secretariat, given its expertise in the economic and social development of the region, could make a valuable contribution by bringing a non-G-20 perspective to the summit.

281. The Commission expressed its appreciation for the secretariat's work in promoting the green growth approach, which could contribute to both environmental sustainability and poverty reduction. According attention to such issues as financing for water, sanitation and clean energy was considered particularly relevant by some delegations.

282. The Commission emphasized the importance of investing in sustainable, eco-efficient infrastructure to meet development priorities and facilitate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Such investment was of particular relevance in addressing the environmental and economic challenges faced by the urban poor and facilitating the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals on health and poverty reduction.

283. Given the challenges and costs of improving resource efficiency measures, the Commission noted that priority should be accorded to identifying practical areas in which tangible progress could be made quickly. The Commission also noted the need to develop new statistical indicators in important areas, such as eco-efficiency, for integration into national statistical programmes.

284. Some delegations further noted the importance of facilitating transboundary water management through existing institutions, such as the Mekong River Commission. In support of such initiatives and to promote further regional cooperation in natural

resources management, the Government of Kazakhstan invited members and associate members to attend and participate in the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, which was scheduled to be held in Astana from 27 September to 2 October 2010.

285. In the pursuit of sustainable development, several countries noted the importance of the transfer of environmentally sound technologies. Such technologies could be widely applied in the energy, transport, water and building sectors. The Government of Malaysia informed the Commission of its efforts to transform itself into a green nation by setting targets for a more sustainable lifestyle and allocating funds to promote the application of green technologies. While acknowledging the role of intellectual property rights in spurring technological innovation, some Governments highlighted the need to facilitate the access of developing countries to environmentally sound technologies at an affordable cost. Several countries highlighted the role of South-South cooperation in innovation and technology transfer, as well as in sharing development experiences.

286. The Commission also noted that there was a huge gap between the estimated costs of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures and available resources. As a result, the need to strengthen global partnerships for the mobilization of financial resources was emphasized.

287. The Commission was briefed on various innovative studies, policies and tools applied by the countries in the Asia-Pacific region to address issues related to unsustainable economic development patterns. In that respect, green growth was identified as a useful policy approach in the case of Central Asian countries, where economic development had relied heavily on the use of natural resources, leading to water stress and ecosystem degradation.

288. The Commission observed that, although climate change would adversely affect every nation in the world,

some countries were significantly more vulnerable to it than others. Low-lying island States, whose long-term survival was at stake, were of particular concern. Taking into account different opinions regarding solving climate change problems, the Commission noted the importance of the collective response to climate change. The Commission also acknowledged the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change as the only platform for official negotiations on climate change.

289. The Commission expressed concern about the increasing frequency and impact of natural disasters and recognized the urgency of the need to adapt to the impacts of climate change. It noted that climate change was already aggravating natural disasters and threatening development achievements, and that countries that lacked access to financial services were the most adversely affected. Several delegations requested assistance and capacity-building in that respect. In particular, one delegation highlighted the “dust haze” problem, the resolution of which would require cooperation among the ESCAP member States concerned and other regional commissions.

290. The Commission adopted resolution 66/1 on the Incheon Declaration.

## **Agenda item 9 Other matters**

291. No other matter was discussed.

## **Agenda item 10 Adoption of the report of the Commission**

292. The report of the Commission on its sixty-sixth session was adopted unanimously on 19 May 2010.

293. Closing statements were made by the Executive Secretary and the Acting Chair. Expressions of gratitude were made by the representatives of Indonesia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, and the Republic of Korea.

## Chapter IV

### RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION

#### A. Resolutions

##### Resolution 66/1

##### Incheon Declaration<sup>26</sup>

*The Economic and Social Commission for  
Asia and the Pacific,*

*Adopts* the following declaration:

##### Incheon Declaration

1. We, the members and associate members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, have gathered in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 13 to 19 May 2010 for the sixty-sixth session of the Commission.

2. We express our appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Korea, and Incheon Metropolitan City, for hosting the present session in Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea, nineteen years after the hosting of the forty-seventh session in Seoul in 1991, which contributed to the strengthening of regional cooperation.

3. We note the importance of General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000 on the United Nations Millennium Declaration and General Assembly resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005 on the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which calls for the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals, and reaffirms the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>27</sup> and General Assembly resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 on the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development.

4. We welcome the convening of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on accelerating progress towards the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, to be held in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010, which could serve as an opportunity to reaffirm commitments to achieving the Millennium

Development Goals, with only five years remaining before the 2015 deadline.

5. We take note of the report entitled *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in an Era of Global Uncertainty: Asia-Pacific Regional Report 2009/10*,<sup>28</sup> which was jointly launched in Manila on 17 February 2010 by the regional partnership of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.

6. We express concern that the recent global economic crisis has adversely affected progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and could leave an additional 21 million people in the Asia-Pacific region subsisting on an income of less than \$1.25 a day in the period 2009-2010.

7. We welcome the efforts of countries in the region, especially the developing countries, which have made good progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, while remaining concerned that the region is still vulnerable to setbacks in achieving them.

8. We emphasize the need for stronger regional cooperation, which could make the region more resilient to future crises and bolster the capacity of countries in the region to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

9. We also emphasize the importance of the bottom-up, comprehensive, multisectoral approach to achieving the Millennium Development Goals that focuses on the protection and empowerment of individuals and communities.

10. We welcome the timely initiative of the Government of Indonesia to host the Special Ministerial Meeting for the Review of the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: Run Up to 2015 in Jakarta on 3 and 4 August 2010, which will serve as the Asia-Pacific preparatory meeting for the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session in September 2010 on accelerating progress towards the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

11. We look forward to a successful conclusion of the Special Ministerial Meeting for the Review of the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: Run Up to 2015.

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<sup>26</sup> See paras. 262 to 286 above.

<sup>27</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

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<sup>28</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.II.F.10.

12. We note that the recent financial and economic crisis and the highly volatile fuel prices, the food crisis and climate change have threatened progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

13. We recognize that green growth or environmentally sustainable economic growth, of which note was taken in Commission resolution 61/9 on the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, has provided policymakers in the region and throughout the world with a number of tools and policies for greening the economy and coping with the recent crises.

14. We also recall Commission resolution 64/3 on promoting renewables for energy security and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific.

15. We are convinced that green growth is one of the elements that creates synergies in the pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals by harmonizing efforts to achieve environmental sustainability (Goal 7) with efforts to achieve other Goals, including poverty alleviation (Goal 1), by providing new opportunities to achieve economic growth and generate jobs.

16. We commend the Executive Secretary for her efforts to foster sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, through the continuous assistance and services provided by the Commission to countries in the Asia-Pacific region, in particular the countries with special needs (least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition) in support of their application of green growth or environmentally sustainable economic growth and other regional initiatives in the fields of environment and energy efficiency and energy conservation.

17. We recognize the contribution of green growth to the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/28 on the role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 2008, in which the Council invited the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to support initiatives directed towards implementing green initiatives in developing countries, encompassing, inter alia, the preparation of strategies for achieving a green economy in the context of sustainable development.

18. We strive to strengthen our efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by their respective target dates.

19. We intend:

- (a) To strengthen our efforts to pursue

green growth strategies as part of our response to the current crisis and beyond;

(b) To introduce, as appropriate, on a voluntary basis and taking into account national circumstances, and consistent with international trade obligations, policies, legislation and incentives encouraging companies to pursue the greening of existing business practices and to foster green industries by promoting eco-efficient production activities, developing environmentally sound technologies and marketing sustainable products and services;

(c) To strengthen bilateral and regional cooperation by building partnerships for capacity-building, technical assistance and the replication of best practices in promoting green growth.

20. We urge that financial and technical support be provided to countries in the Asian and Pacific region, particularly the least developed countries, in implementing the present declaration, as appropriate, by United Nations agencies, regional and international financial institutions and the private sector.

21. We request the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to assist countries in the region, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and Pacific island developing countries, in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, in accordance with their national development priorities;

(b) To facilitate the reinforcement of regional partnerships on the Millennium Development Goals;

(c) To contribute inputs to the Special Ministerial Meeting for the Review of the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: Run Up to 2015;

(d) To report the results of the Special Ministerial Meeting to the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on accelerating progress towards the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015;

(e) To coordinate with multilateral funding agencies with a view to enhancing financial and technology flows for the development and deployment of clean technologies in developing countries;

(f) To facilitate the exchange of information among members and associate members regarding national strategies and best practices in support of green growth and, if requested, to further assist in developing national strategies in this regard, and to report the results to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

## Resolution 66/2

### Five-Year Review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States<sup>29</sup>

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

Recalling the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>30</sup> adopted in January 2005 in Mauritius, as the global strategy for addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States,

Recalling also its resolution 62/9 of 12 April 2006 on regional follow-up to the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, in which it requested the Executive Secretary to ensure that the activities of the Commission took into account the special needs of the small island developing States and to review, analyse and disseminate information, as appropriate, on economic and social development in small island developing States, in line with the Mauritius Strategy,

Stressing General Assembly resolutions 62/191 and 63/213 on follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, in which it decided to review progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy at its sixty-fifth session, to be held in September 2010, and stressed that the review of the Mauritius Strategy should provide the international community with an opportunity to: (a) conduct an assessment of the progress made, lessons learned and constraints encountered in the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy; and (b) agree on what needs to be done to further address the vulnerabilities of small island developing States,

Noting the commitment of the Pacific small island developing States to undertake strong actions at the national and regional levels to further advance the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy,

Welcoming the support provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Council of Regional Organizations in the

<sup>29</sup> See paras. 19 to 37 above.

<sup>30</sup> Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Pacific to Pacific small island developing States for the preparation and convening of the Pacific High-level Dialogue for the Five-Year Review of the Mauritius Strategy, hosted by the Government of Vanuatu in February 2010,

1. Commends the Executive Secretary for advancing the implementation and review of the Mauritius Strategy<sup>30</sup> and for delivering on her promise to strengthen the presence and work of the Commission in the Pacific;

2. Commends the Pacific small island developing States and their partners for their efforts in successfully carrying out the Pacific High-level Dialogue on the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation and producing the Port Vila Outcome Statement,<sup>31</sup> which reflects the Dialogue;

3. Invites members and associate members to support the Port Vila Outcome Statement and its submission to the Commission on Sustainable Development and the General Assembly;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To ensure that the activities of the Commission, consistent with its programme of work, take into account the special needs of the Pacific small island developing States, as contained in the Port Vila Outcome Statement, including the submission of the Outcome Statement to the General Assembly and the Pacific Islands Forum;

(b) To continue to review, analyse and disseminate information, as appropriate, on economic and social development in small island developing States, in line with the Port Vila Outcome Statement;

(c) To encourage the United Nations system to function as a cohesive platform to assist small island developing States in implementing the Mauritius Strategy and in making better use of the United Nations intergovernmental process at the regional level to report to regional member States on its support of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy;

(d) To report to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

## Resolution 66/3

### Implementation of the Dhaka Outcome Document on the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries<sup>32</sup>

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

<sup>31</sup> E/ESCAP/66/1.

<sup>32</sup> See paras. 40 to 52 above.



Recalling the Brussels Declaration<sup>33</sup> and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,<sup>34</sup>

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>35</sup> in which the Heads of State and Government strongly reiterated their determination to ensure the timely and full realization of all internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 63/239 of 24 December 2008 on the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 63/227 of 19 December 2008 on the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, in which it, inter alia, decided to convene, as called for in paragraph 114 of the Programme of Action, the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in 2011,

Recalling also its resolution 64/6 of 30 April 2008 on achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCAP region, in which it, inter alia, requested the Executive Secretary to assist countries in the region in achieving the Goals, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and Pacific island developing countries,

Expressing concern at the adverse impacts of volatile energy prices, the food crisis, the financial crisis and climate change, which could threaten the economic and social well-being of the people of the region,

Reaffirming that the Brussels Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for a strong global partnership, the goal of which is to accelerate sustained economic growth, sustainable development and poverty eradication in the least developed countries,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration of the Least Developed Countries, adopted in New York on 29 September 2008,<sup>36</sup>

Noting with concern that the Asia-Pacific least developed countries have, in general, lagged behind others in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, including commitments made under the Brussels Programme of Action, especially in the areas of trade, aid and financial flows, which remain largely unfulfilled

for the Asia-Pacific least developed countries,

Noting the need to further intensify the engagement of the international community in the attainment of the goals and targets agreed in the Brussels Programme of Action for the decade 2001-2010 and in the implementation of a new programme of action for the least developed countries for the decade 2011-2020, including the mobilization of additional international support measures and action in favour of the least developed countries and the formation of a renewed partnership between these countries and their development partners,

Noting with appreciation the convening of the High-level Asia-Pacific Policy Dialogue on the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, organized jointly by the Government of Bangladesh and the secretariat of the Commission, in collaboration with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and held in Dhaka from 18 to 20 January 2010, which was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and attended by eight ministers from the participating least developed countries,

Taking note of the Dhaka Outcome Document,<sup>37</sup> as adopted by the Policy Dialogue, which sets out several areas for regional and South-South cooperation,

1. Invites the countries of the region and international and regional organizations to urgently consider the implementation, as appropriate, of the recommendations contained in the Dhaka Outcome Document;<sup>37</sup>

2. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To assist Asia-Pacific least developed countries in forwarding the Dhaka Outcome Document as the Asia-Pacific regional input to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2011;

(b) To continue to assist Asia-Pacific least developed countries, in cooperation with other international entities and taking into account their respective mandates, in implementing the recommendations of the Dhaka Outcome Document and in building their capacity to make appropriate policy responses that mitigate the impact of the economic crisis, restore growth and achieve the Millennium Development Goals, as well as recommendations that may be adopted under a new programme of action for the least developed countries for the decade 2011-2020;

(c) To submit to the Commission at its sixty-seventh session a report on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

<sup>33</sup> A/CONF.191/13, chap. I.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid., chap. II.

<sup>35</sup> See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

<sup>36</sup> A/C.2/63/8, annex.

<sup>37</sup> E/ESCAP/66/6.

## Resolution 66/4

### Implementation of the Bangkok Declaration on Transport Development in Asia<sup>38</sup>

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Welcoming* the successful outcome of the first session of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport, held in Bangkok from 14 to 18 December 2009, which adopted the Bangkok Declaration on Transport Development in Asia,<sup>39</sup>

*Recognizing* the crucial importance of regional integration to the economic and social development of countries in the Asian region,

*Noting* the central role of efficient, reliable and cost-effective transport services, including infrastructure, facilitation and logistics, in supporting the regional integration process,

*Recalling* its resolution 63/9 of 23 May 2007 on the implementation of the Busan Declaration on Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific<sup>40</sup> and the Regional Action Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2007-2011),<sup>41</sup> and, in particular, the endorsement given by the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport at its first session for the continued implementation of the Busan Declaration and the Regional Action Programme,<sup>42</sup>

*Recalling also* 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,<sup>43</sup>

*Encouraged* by the successful regional cooperation that led to the entry into force of the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network<sup>44</sup> and the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network,<sup>45</sup>

*Noting* the important role which transport infrastructure and high-quality transport services play in

ensuring sustainable economic growth and increasing the competitiveness of economies in the region as well as improving living standards,

*Stressing* the important role of dry ports in integrating modes of transport, reducing border-crossing and transit delays, facilitating the use of energy-efficient and lower-emission means of transport and creating new opportunities for the growth and establishment of development clusters,

*Recognizing* that the formalization of the status of dry ports could significantly contribute to the development of an international integrated intermodal transport and logistics system,

*Stressing* the need to ensure the professionalism and improve the performance of the logistics industry,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>46</sup> and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>47</sup> and stressing the important contribution of transport infrastructure and services in achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

*Recognizing* that vast numbers of people in rural areas have limited access to transport infrastructure and services and, consequently, to economic and social opportunities,

*Recognizing also* that the improvement of energy efficiency in the transport sector contributes to environmental sustainability,

*Acknowledging* that road safety is a public policy issue of major concern that requires a strong political commitment and effective interventions to reduce road traffic fatalities, injuries and related human suffering significantly,

*Welcoming* the declaration adopted at the first Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety: Time for Action, held in Moscow on 19 and 20 November 2009,<sup>48</sup> and the proclamation by the General Assembly, in its resolution 64/255 on improving global road safety, of the period 2011-2020 as the Decade of Action for Road Safety,

1. *Resolves* to support increased regional economic integration in an effective manner and, in that regard, invites members and associate members to develop and implement transport policies at the national, subregional and regional levels in line with the following principles:

(a) Formulating integrated policies and decision-making frameworks based on strategic assessments of economic, environmental, social and poverty-related aspects;

<sup>38</sup> See paras. 71 to 84 above.

<sup>39</sup> E/ESCAP/66/11, chap. IV.

<sup>40</sup> E/ESCAP/63/13, chap. V.

<sup>41</sup> Commission resolution 63/9, annex.

<sup>42</sup> See E/ESCAP/66/11, para. 1.

<sup>43</sup> *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3)*, annex I.

<sup>44</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2323, No. 41607.

<sup>45</sup> Commission resolution 62/4, annex.

<sup>46</sup> See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

<sup>47</sup> See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

<sup>48</sup> A/64/540, annex.

(b) Developing an international integrated intermodal transport and logistics system in support of production and distribution networks and international trade that contributes significantly to the realization of regional integration;

(c) Giving priority to investment in the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks, including intermodal interfaces to link them with water and air transport networks;

(d) Promoting the development of economic and logistics activities at intermodal interfaces, in particular at production and consumption centres, and around seaports and dry ports;

(e) Supporting the development of coastal areas, hinterlands and landlocked countries by providing physical access and connectivity;

(f) Increasing access for people in rural areas to transport infrastructure and services;

(g) Placing road safety high on the policy agenda;

(h) Mobilizing financial resources for the development of the transport system and its maintenance and operation from all possible sources, including private-sector partnerships and other financial arrangements;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to accord priority to the implementation of the Busan Declaration on Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific<sup>40</sup> and the Regional Action Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2007-2011),<sup>41</sup> especially to assist regional members and associate members in their efforts:

(a) To realize the long-term vision of an international integrated intermodal transport and logistics system;

(b) To accede to, ratify, accept or approve the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network<sup>44</sup> and/or the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network;<sup>45</sup>

(c) To develop the Asian Highway network, the Trans-Asian Railway network and intermodal transport infrastructure;

(d) To remove bottlenecks along, and operationalize, priority transport corridors and routes, including Euro-Asian transport linkages;

(e) To join relevant international agreements and conventions aimed at the harmonization of standards, rules and procedures for highway and railway transportation as well as the facilitation of border crossings;

(f) To bring about connectivity and the integration of the Asian Highway network, the Trans-Asian Railway network and other transport modes by working towards the development of an intergovernmental agreement on dry ports;

(g) To develop guidelines for minimum standards and codes of conduct for freight forwarders, multimodal transport operators and logistics services providers;

(h) To promote the access of rural populations to main transport networks and services;

(i) To promote environmentally sustainable transport through efficient freight logistics and modal shifts in freight and passenger transportation;

(j) To set road safety goals, targets and indicators through networking among national and subregional organizations;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To ensure effective coordination with other United Nations and multilateral agencies as well as subregional organizations;

(b) To collaborate effectively with international and regional financing institutions, multilateral and bilateral donors and private sector investors, and international organizations to mobilize further financial and technical support for the wider development and operationalization of the Trans-Asian Railway network and the Asian Highway network;

(c) To convene a ministerial conference on transport in 2011 to assess and evaluate the implementation of the Bangkok Declaration on Transport Development in Asia<sup>39</sup> and the Regional Action Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2007-2011), and to consider a regional action programme for phase II (2012-2016).

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

## **Resolution 66/5**

### **Implementation of the Jakarta Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific<sup>49</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Stressing* the crucial role of economic and social infrastructure, including transport facilities and services, water supply, wastewater treatment, solid waste management, drainage systems, energy and power supply, information and communications technology, and education, health and welfare facilities in supporting development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

*Recognizing* that inadequate infrastructure facilities and services have strong adverse effects on the movement of goods and services, production and

<sup>49</sup> See paras. 71 to 84 above.

transaction costs, and levels of social and personal health and welfare, which are affecting development efforts and preventing the countries of the region from realizing their full development potential,

*Realizing* that, typically, infrastructure requirements are significantly larger than budgetary provisions and that innovative solutions are needed in order to raise financing for the development of infrastructure, improve the efficiency of infrastructure operations and create incentives to promote the maintenance of infrastructure,

*Recognizing* the strength of the public and private sectors working together to combine their financial, management and technical resources to improve the supply, provision and maintenance of infrastructure facilities and services,

*Recognizing also* that the impacts of the financial and economic crises necessitate that governments review their legislative, regulatory and procedural environments for public-private partnerships,

*Noting* that the important role given to the development of physical infrastructure in economic stimulus packages has created new opportunities for public-private partnerships,

*Taking note* of the Jakarta Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific,<sup>50</sup> adopted by the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development 2010, which was held in Jakarta on 17 April 2010,

*Noting* the continued relevance of Commission resolution 64/4 of 30 April 2008 on the implementation of the Seoul Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>51</sup> the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>52</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>53</sup> and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>54</sup> all of which support and promote the concept of public-private partnerships in the development process,

*Recalling also* 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,<sup>55</sup> which recognizes the importance of public-private partnerships in the development of transit systems,

*Recognizing* the benefits of countries in the region sharing their rich experience to resolve issues of major concern to both the public and private sectors that act as barriers to developing effective partnerships,

*Recognizing also* the need to enhance or create an environment conducive to private sector participation in the provision of infrastructure facilities and services, including:

- (a) Formulating public-private partnership policy frameworks;
- (b) Reforming legislative and regulatory regimes through proactive government participation;
- (c) Encouraging countries and regional programmes to establish institutional mechanisms and partnership performance assessment tools to promote good governance of public-private partnerships;
- (d) Enhancing the capacity of the public sector to implement public-private partnerships,

*Taking note* of the eight major characteristics of good governance, namely that it is participatory, consensus-oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive, and follows the rule of law,

*Noting* the significant progress made in many countries that have facilitated and promoted public-private partnerships,

*Recognizing* the important contribution that bilateral donors, international financial institutions and other organizations are making in order to assist countries in reaching their full development potential in order to support economic growth, social development and poverty reduction through their public-private partnership endeavours,

*Welcoming* the offer of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the third Ministerial Conference on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific,

1. *Reiterates* the commitments made in Commission resolution 64/4 on the implementation of the Seoul Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific,

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<sup>50</sup> E/ESCAP/66/CRP.17.

<sup>51</sup> See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

<sup>52</sup> See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

<sup>53</sup> *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.I and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>54</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

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<sup>55</sup> *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

particularly with respect to using public-private partnerships as an effective means of complementing Government development efforts;

2. *Invites* members and associate members, as appropriate, to review and assess the following:

(a) Their public-private partnership, sectoral and other relevant policy frameworks and action plans for infrastructure development;

(b) Their public-private partnership readiness, including the identification of key issues to be addressed by Governments in promoting the role of public-private partnerships in infrastructure development;

(c) Their processes and procedures for implementing public-private partnerships, including effective management over their life cycle;

(d) Their legislative, regulatory and institutional environments for public-private partnerships generally and at the sectoral level in order to identify any barriers to their effectiveness;

(e) Their internal and external barriers to public-private partnership in infrastructure development;

(f) Their capacity to implement public-private partnerships and evaluate their impact on development;

(g) The availability of innovative capital resources to meet the funding needs of public-private partnership projects;

(h) The availability of domestic risk management mechanisms and instruments to reduce or mitigate project risks and lower overall project costs;

3. *Encourages* members and associate members, as appropriate, to actively engage in regional cooperation initiatives, including: networking arrangements; educational and training programmes; compilation and dissemination of information; standardization of contracts, processes and procedures; and provision of technical assistance;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, the relevant offices of the United Nations Secretariat, international financial institutions, other organizations and bilateral donors:

(a) To assist members and associate members in meeting infrastructure development challenges through: (i) regional and interregional cooperation in the development of public-private partnerships; and (ii) the organization of meetings and regional networking arrangements aimed at promoting the exchange of experiences and information;

(b) To assist members and associate members, on a mutually agreed basis, with their capacity-building programmes, including public-private partnership policy framework formulation, legislative

and regulatory reform, and administrative arrangements for public-private partnerships;

(c) To provide technical support, upon request, to help increase the public-private partnership readiness of members and associate members, including: (i) preparing regional financing and risk management tools to reduce transaction costs; and (ii) developing risk mitigation mechanisms against currency mismatches;

(d) To establish a task force to elaborate the elements of a regional financial architecture that could assist the Asia-Pacific region with increased capital availability for infrastructure development;

(e) To establish an Asia-Pacific network of public-private partnership units and programmes which would, among other things, provide ad hoc advisory and training services, disseminate information on public-private partnerships and coordinate regional meetings of national public-private partnership units and programmes;

(f) To take into consideration the special needs of landlocked and transit developing countries in the implementation of the present resolution;

(g) To undertake a periodic review of the progress made in infrastructure development through public-private partnerships and to report to the Commission at its seventy-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

## **Resolution 66/6**

### **Improving road safety in Asia and the Pacific<sup>56</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 57/309 of 22 May 2003 and 58/9 of 5 November 2003 on the global road safety crisis, and 58/289 of 14 April 2004, 60/5 of 26 October 2005, 62/244 of 31 March 2008 and 64/255 of 2 March 2010 on improving global road safety,

*Recalling also* the Ministerial Declaration on Improving Road Safety in Asia and the Pacific,<sup>57</sup> adopted at the Ministerial Conference on Transport, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 6 to 11 November 2006, and Commission resolution 63/9 of 23 May 2007 on the implementation of the Busan Declaration on Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Action Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2007-2011), as well as the outcomes of the first session of the Forum of Asian

<sup>56</sup> See paras. 71 to 84 above.

<sup>57</sup> E/ESCAP/63/13, chap. IV.

Ministers of Transport, held in Bangkok from 14 to 18 December 2009,<sup>58</sup>

*Taking note* of the fact that the General Assembly, in its resolution 58/289, invited the World Health Organization, working in close cooperation with the United Nations regional commissions, to act as a coordinator on road safety issues within the United Nations system,

*Noting* the establishment by the World Health Organization of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration in 2004 and its subsequent activities, including the convening of eleven meetings and the development of a draft plan of action for the decade 2011-2020,

*Taking note* of the fact that the General Assembly, in its resolution 64/255, recognized the role of the United Nations regional commissions and their subsidiary bodies in increasing their road safety activities and advocating increased political commitment to road safety,

*Welcoming* the recommendations of the ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on Improving Road Safety, held in Bangkok from 2 to 4 September 2009, which, in particular, noted the usefulness of compiling a guideline outlining best practices in road safety improvement in the region,<sup>59</sup>

*Expressing concern* at the continued increase in road traffic fatalities and injuries in the Asia-Pacific region, in particular in low-income and middle-income countries, bearing in mind that the fatality rate within the road system is considerably higher than in other transport systems,

*Concerned* about the human suffering, social implications and heavy burden on the poor of road accidents, as well as their impact on national economic development,

*Recognizing* that road safety is a public policy issue of major concern that requires a strong political commitment and effective interventions to significantly reduce road traffic fatalities, injuries and related human suffering,

*Noting* that the rapid growth of vehicle ownership in the Asia-Pacific region could quickly outpace the capacity of vehicle safety standards and infrastructure to assure public safety,

*Recognizing* the efforts made by members of the Commission to implement best practices, set ambitious targets and monitor road traffic fatalities,

*Reaffirming* the need to further strengthen international cooperation and knowledge-sharing in

road safety, taking into account the needs of low-income and middle-income countries,

*Welcoming* the declaration adopted at the First Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety: Time for Action, held in Moscow on 19 and 20 November 2009,<sup>60</sup>

*Recalling* that the General Assembly, in its resolution 64/255, proclaimed the period 2011-2020 as the Decade of Action for Road Safety, with the goal of stabilizing and then reducing the forecast level of road traffic fatalities around the world by increasing activities aimed at strengthening road safety which are conducted at the national, regional and global levels,

*Acknowledging* that multilateral technical and financial assistance in support of capacity-building for enhancing road safety in the Asia-Pacific region should be provided in a predictable and timely manner without unwarranted conditionalities, considering the specific situation of each country, based on its needs and priorities, and given that there is no one-size-fits-all formula,

1. *Encourages* members and associate members to implement General Assembly resolution 64/255 on improving global road safety;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of addressing global road safety issues and the need to further strengthen regional cooperation, taking into account the needs of low-income and middle-income countries, including those of the least developed countries, by building capacities in the field of road safety and providing financial and technical support for their efforts;

3. *Invites* all member States to set their own national road traffic casualty reduction targets to be achieved by the end of the Decade;

4. *Also invites* member States, international organizations, development banks and funding agencies, foundations, professional associations and private sector companies to consider providing adequate and additional funding for activities relating to the Decade;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with the World Health Organization and other United Nations regional commissions, partners in the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration and other stakeholders:

(a) To prepare an implementation plan for the Asia-Pacific region to be presented as a regional input to the Decade of Action for Road Safety;

(b) To participate actively in the second United Nations Global Road Safety Week to launch the Decade and to encourage the participation of members and associate members;

(c) To develop, in consultation with the members and associate members of the Commission, a

<sup>58</sup> See E/ESCAP/66/11.

<sup>59</sup> See [www.unescap.org/ttdw/roadsafety](http://www.unescap.org/ttdw/roadsafety).

<sup>60</sup> A/64/540, annex.

set of regional goals, targets and indicators, to be achieved by 2020 in order to assess and evaluate road safety progress;

(d) To coordinate regular monitoring, within the framework of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration, of global progress towards meeting the targets identified in the proposed plan of action and to make a regional input to the global status reports on road safety and to develop other appropriate monitoring tools;

(e) To organize regional and subregional meetings to facilitate regional implementation of the Decade and assess the results achieved, subject to the availability of financial resources;

(f) To assess and evaluate the implementation of the present resolution and submit, as appropriate, a progress report to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

### **Resolution 66/7**

#### **Pacific Urban Agenda<sup>61</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Recalling* its resolution 60/7 of 28 April 2004 on the Pacific Urban Agenda, in which it requested the Executive Secretary to accord priority to the implementation of the Agenda,

*Noting* that the 2005 Pacific Islands Forum Leaders meeting endorsed the Pacific Plan,<sup>62</sup> which, inter alia, calls for Pacific island countries to address the growing urbanization challenges and to develop plans and policies,

*Recognizing* the Goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>63</sup> relating to poverty, in particular Goal 1, halving the number of poor people by 2015, and Goal 7, target 7(d), achieving significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020,

*Recognizing also* that the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in Istanbul, Turkey, called for improvement in the lives of slum dwellers and good urban management to prevent the urbanization of poverty,<sup>64</sup>

*Commending* the Executive Secretary for the initiatives taken in collaboration with the Commonwealth Local Government Forum and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat at the second regional Pacific Urban Agenda workshop, held in 2007, to further refine the Pacific Urban Agenda, focusing on institutional frameworks, urban shelter, the urban environment and urban quality of life, as well as her decision to host the United Nations Human Settlements Programme's Pacific Programme Manager in the Pacific subregional office of the secretariat to strengthen subregional coordination and collaboration,

*Noting* the support provided by the Government of Australia, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the Planning Institute of Australia to form a Pacific Island Planners Association,

*Noting also* the 2007 meeting, supported by the Government of Australia and UN-Habitat, to develop a Regional Action Framework identifying immediate priorities from the Pacific Urban Agenda, including the strengthening of institutions to develop and implement policy, regulatory and legislative frameworks linked to national planning and budgetary processes; and coordination among all levels of government across sectoral agencies and with development partners to guide the implementation of urban policy and plans and build capacity in planning and related agencies and professional groups,

*Noting further* the continued increase in populations, in particular the urban populations in the Pacific island countries, and the planning and management challenges that confront local and central governments and civil society as well as the need to build community cohesion and address community development and livelihood needs within poor urban communities, and recognizing the importance of the rural-urban interface,

*Recognizing* that many Pacific cities are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and natural disasters and need to be prepared with disaster management and risk reduction plans,

*Noting* initiatives taken by the Commonwealth Local Government Forum's Pacific Project to strengthen local governance and initiatives taken by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to undertake national urban profiles in a number of Pacific island countries, as well as initiatives taken by development partners and Pacific island countries, including Papua New Guinea, to develop a national policy on urbanization, the draft national policy on urbanization of Vanuatu, the Samoan Planning and Urban Management Agency and the implementation of the Urban Policy Action Plan of Fiji,

<sup>61</sup> See paras. 85 to 97 above.

<sup>62</sup> [www.forumsec.org.fj/resources/uploads/attachments/documents/Pacific\\_Plan\\_Nov\\_2007\\_version.pdf](http://www.forumsec.org.fj/resources/uploads/attachments/documents/Pacific_Plan_Nov_2007_version.pdf).

<sup>63</sup> See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

<sup>64</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human*

*Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6).

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with UN-Habitat and other relevant United Nations entities, to continue to support Pacific members and associate members in implementing the Pacific Urban Agenda and Regional Action Framework in collaboration with regional and development partners;

2. *Invites* partner agencies, including regional organizations, to provide members and associate members with technical and financial support to cooperate in the implementation of the Pacific Urban Agenda and the Regional Action Framework;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to support members and associate members in assessing progress in implementing the Pacific Urban Agenda, to convene a subregional workshop in the biennium 2010-2011 for exchange of experience and capacity-building requirements and to report to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session on the outcome of this exercise.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

#### **Resolution 66/8**

##### **Review of the proposal for the establishment of the Asian and Pacific centre for information, communication and space technology-enabled disaster management in the Islamic Republic of Iran<sup>65</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Recalling* its resolution 65/5 of 29 April 2009 on the review of the operational details of the feasibility study for the establishment of an Asian and Pacific centre for information, communication and space technology-enabled disaster management in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in which it noted that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran had requested additional time in order to provide the Commission with the supplementary information requested in paragraph 1 of its resolution 64/10 of 30 April 2008 on the review of the operational details of the feasibility study for the establishment of an Asian and Pacific centre for information, communications and space technology-enabled disaster management,

*Noting with appreciation* the generous offer of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the proposed centre, and welcoming the progress reported in conducting the review requested in paragraph 1 of resolution 64/10,

1. *Invites* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

(a) To provide the Commission with the supplementary information requested in paragraph 1 of

<sup>65</sup> See paras. 110 to 121 above.

resolution 64/10;

(b) To consider revising its draft resolution to take into account the outcome of the review requested in paragraph 1 of resolution 64/10, in consultation with the secretariat, for submission to the Commission for consideration at its sixty-seventh session;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to provide the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran with technical assistance, if requested, in the review of the operational details of the proposal.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

#### **Resolution 66/9**

##### **Full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its regional and global outcomes in the Asia-Pacific region<sup>66</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Recalling* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,<sup>67</sup> and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,<sup>68</sup>

*Reaffirming* the call for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women, as set forth in the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>69</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 61/10 of 18 May 2005 on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,

*Recognizing* that eradication of poverty based on sustained economic growth, social development, environmental protection and social justice requires the involvement of women in economic and social development and equal opportunities and the full and equal participation of women and men as agents and beneficiaries of people-centred sustainable development,

*Emphasizing* that the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the promotion of gender equality and of women's empowerment and participation, together with the mainstreaming of a gender perspective, are important to advance the implementation of the

<sup>66</sup> See paras. 122 to 137 above.

<sup>67</sup> *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>68</sup> General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

<sup>69</sup> See General Assembly resolution 55/2.



internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions,

*Welcoming* the declaration on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women adopted at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women,

*Endorsing* the report of the Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Review Regional Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and Its Regional and Global Outcomes,<sup>70</sup> held in Bangkok from 16 to 18 November 2009, and the Bangkok Declaration on Beijing+15,<sup>71</sup>

*Encouraged* by the progress made towards gender equality since the Fourth World Conference on Women and concerned that the Asia-Pacific region faces major challenges and obstacles in achieving economic and political empowerment of women,

*Recognizing* the role and contribution of civil society, in particular women's and other non-governmental organizations, in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, and encouraging their continued participation,

*Commending* the Executive Secretary for re-establishing the Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women of the regional coordination mechanism, which has contributed to enhanced coordination and coherence among regional United Nations partners in the advancement of women and gender equality as a means to promote sustainable and inclusive development in the region,

1. *Reaffirms* the important role of the Commission in supporting the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action<sup>67</sup> and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;<sup>68</sup>

2. *Calls upon* all members and associate members to take further action to ensure the full and effective implementation of the commitments reflected in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, the Millennium Declaration<sup>69</sup> and the Bangkok Declaration on Beijing+15;<sup>71</sup>

3. *Encourages* members and associate members, as well as agencies, regional and international financial institutions and the private sector, to provide countries in the Asian and Pacific region, particularly the least developed countries, with financial and technical support in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the Bangkok Declaration on Beijing+15;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To strengthen the role of the Commission in supporting members and associate members in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action, as well as the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, and to take actions set out in the Bangkok Declaration on Beijing+15;

(b) To continue to ensure that gender dimensions are mainstreamed, where applicable, into the entire programme of work of the Commission;

(c) To provide members and associate members, upon request, with technical assistance to strengthen their capacity for effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, and also to mainstream a gender perspective in all programmes, through, among other things, mechanisms and processes, such as gender-responsive budgeting, gender-responsive auditing, development and use of sex-disaggregated data and monitoring and performance indicators;

(d) To encourage members and associate members, as appropriate, that have not ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>72</sup> and its Optional Protocol<sup>73</sup> to do so, and to provide those members and associate members that have ratified or acceded to the Convention, upon request, with assistance in its implementation;

(e) To enhance the role of the regional coordination mechanism, chaired by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP, as appropriate, taking into consideration United Nations gender architecture reform,<sup>74</sup> to achieve greater synergies among United Nations entities in the region to further develop strategies and plans aimed at the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its sixty-ninth session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

#### **Resolution 66/10**

#### **Regional call for action to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support in Asia and the Pacific<sup>75</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 60/262

<sup>72</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>73</sup> General Assembly resolution 54/4, annex.

<sup>74</sup> See A/64/588.

<sup>75</sup> See paras. 122 to 137 above.

<sup>70</sup> E/ESCAP/66/14 and Corr.1.

<sup>71</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. I.

of 2 June 2006, by which the Assembly adopted the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS, which calls for, inter alia, halting and beginning to reverse, by 2015, the spread of HIV/AIDS, and scaling up significantly national efforts to achieve the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010,

*Recalling also* Commission resolutions 57/1 of 25 April 2001 on the regional call for action to fight the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in Asia and the Pacific and 59/1 of 4 September 2003 on regional action in follow-up to the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, which call for regional action in implementing the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,<sup>76</sup>

*Taking note of* the progress made and challenges still to be overcome by countries of the Asian and Pacific region in their implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the 2006 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS, as reported at the 2008 United Nations high-level meeting on AIDS,

*Recognizing* HIV and AIDS as major public health and development challenges that threaten to reverse many of the social and economic gains achieved in the Asian and Pacific region, including progress in attaining the Millennium Development Goals,

*Taking note of* the need to address the multisectoral elements that drive HIV epidemics and work with all relevant stakeholders in carrying out a comprehensive response,

*Emphasizing* the mutually reinforcing interrelationship between Millennium Development Goal 6, which includes targets to halt and reverse the spread of HIV and to achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV and AIDS for all who need it, and other Millennium Development Goals, in particular Goal 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, Goal 3 on promoting gender equality and empowerment of women, Goal 4 on reducing child mortality and Goal 5 on improving maternal health, where progress is mutually reinforcing,

*Recognizing* that political commitment at the highest level, and effective leadership at all levels of society, are vital in achieving universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and support, as well as for the success of other HIV and AIDS interventions,

*Noting with particular concern* the continuing high prevalence of HIV among key affected populations, including sex workers, injecting drug users and men who have sex with men, as well as the extent of the legal and policy barriers that impede progress in developing and implementing effective ways of

responding to HIV and related risks among them,

1. *Calls upon* all members and associate members:

(a) To accelerate the implementation of the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS adopted by the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;<sup>77</sup>

(b) To reinforce commitments to the Millennium Development Goal target of universal access to treatment for HIV and AIDS for those who need it, in terms of measurable, sustained advances towards a significantly higher level of coverage for treatment and effective prevention interventions needed to manage diverse epidemics, with services being equitable, accessible, affordable, comprehensive and responsive to individual needs, especially for women and girls, through evidence-based and gender-responsive national strategic plans, taking into account relevant recommendations from the Commission on AIDS in Asia and the Commission on AIDS in the Pacific;

(c) To ground universal access in human rights and undertake measures to address stigma and discrimination, as well as policy and legal barriers to effective HIV responses, in particular with regard to key affected populations;

(d) To ensure the sustainability of the AIDS response by maintaining a sufficient level of investment, both domestic and external, with the financial and human resources necessary to halt and reverse the spread of HIV in the countries in the region, including by linking HIV and AIDS with Millennium Development Goals and development plans;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, within the existing ESCAP mandate, and in close coordination with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the World Health Organization and other relevant stakeholders:

(a) To support members and associate members in the implementation of the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS and in reaching the Millennium Development Goal target of ensuring universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and support, by promoting regional cooperation among countries of Asia and the Pacific, as appropriate, and partnerships with people living with HIV and AIDS, civil society and faith-based and private-sector groups, guided by the priorities of the UNAIDS Outcome Framework 2009-2011<sup>78</sup> which most concern the drivers of the epidemic in each country;

(b) To support members and associate members in their efforts to enact, strengthen and enforce, as appropriate, legislation, regulations and

<sup>77</sup> General Assembly resolution 60/262, annex.

<sup>78</sup> Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, "Joint action for results: UNAIDS outcome framework 2009-2011" (2010) (UNAIDS/09.13E – JC1713E).

<sup>76</sup> General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

other measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against people living with HIV and AIDS and other key affected populations, and to develop, implement and monitor strategies to combat stigma and exclusion connected with the epidemic;

(c) To support and collaborate with subregional organizations, including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and the Pacific Islands Forum, in enhancing cooperation in developing and implementing effective interventions to deal with HIV/AIDS as a development challenge, giving special attention to transboundary issues which require intercountry collaboration, such as cross-border movement of people and HIV vulnerability, access to affordable medicines, the identification of regionally appropriate and innovative intervention paradigms and models and the promotion of South-South sharing of expertise and experience;

(d) To convene a high-level intergovernmental review for the Asian and Pacific region to assess progress against commitments in the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS and the Millennium Development Goals and efforts to ensure universal access, and identify areas for regional cooperation, in particular in such areas as identifying and removing policy and legal barriers to universal access and promoting dialogue between health and other sectors, including justice, law and order and drug control;

(e) To bring the present resolution to the attention of the General Assembly AIDS Review, to be held in June 2010, with a view to presenting issues of concern to the Asian and Pacific region;

(f) To report to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

#### **Resolution 66/11**

##### **Regional preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012<sup>79</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Recalling* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>80</sup> adopted by the General Assembly on 13 December 2006,

*Noting* that Pacific island countries, meeting in

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, from 21 to 23 October 2009,<sup>81</sup> endorsed the Pacific Regional Strategy on Disability 2010-2015,<sup>82</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 59/3 of 4 September 2003 on regional implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific<sup>83</sup> during the Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, in which the Commission, inter alia, requested all members and associate members to support the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework,

*Recalling also* its resolution 64/8 of 30 April 2008 on regional implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action and Biwako Plus Five towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific,<sup>84</sup> in which the Commission, inter alia, called upon all members and associate members to develop and implement inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based policies on disability in line with the recommendations contained in the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action and Biwako Plus Five, and requested the Executive Secretary to convene a high-level intergovernmental meeting to review the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action and Biwako Plus Five in 2012, the concluding year of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012,

*Recalling further* its resolution 65/3 of 29 April 2009 on the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, in which the Commission decided that the venue of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, should be decided by the Commission at its sixty-sixth session,

*Noting* that the Commission, in its resolution 65/3, welcomed the offer of the Republic of Korea to host the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting,

1. *Decides* that the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, shall be held in the Republic of Korea in 2012;

2. *Calls upon* all members and associate members and key stakeholders to actively contribute to the preparatory process leading up to, as well as to

<sup>79</sup> See paras. 122 to 137 above.

<sup>80</sup> See document PIFS(09)FDMM.07, available at [www.forumsec.org/resources/uploads/attachments/documents/Pacific%20Regional%20Strategy%20on%20Disability.pdf](http://www.forumsec.org/resources/uploads/attachments/documents/Pacific%20Regional%20Strategy%20on%20Disability.pdf).

<sup>81</sup> E/ESCAP/APDDP/4/Rev.1.

<sup>82</sup> E/ESCAP/APDDP(2)/2.

<sup>79</sup> See paras. 122 to 137 above.

<sup>80</sup> General Assembly resolution 61/106, annex 1.

participate in, the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to encourage the participation of all key stakeholders, including organizations of persons with disabilities from Asia and the Pacific, in the preparatory process leading up to the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

### **Resolution 66/12**

#### **Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference<sup>85</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Noting* that more than 60 per cent of the population of the world and of its poorest people live in the Asia-Pacific region,

*Acknowledging* the complex interrelationships among population, economic growth and sustainable development, as well as population distribution, environmental concerns, urbanization and migration,

*Taking note* of the Asia-Pacific High-level Forum Declaration on Population and Development: Fifteen Years after Cairo, adopted at the Asia-Pacific High-level Forum on ICPD at 15: Accelerating Progress towards the ICPD and Millennium Development Goals,<sup>86</sup> held in Bangkok on 16 and 17 September 2009, in which the delegates reaffirmed their commitment to fully implement the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>87</sup> by 2014 through concerted actions in such critical areas as maternal health; family planning; sexual and reproductive health, including for adolescents; gender equality and women's empowerment; population ageing; and international migration,

*Concerned* about the uneven progress within the region in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals, especially the relatively slow progress made in reducing maternal mortality and ensuring equitable access to reproductive health information and services for all population groups, including the most vulnerable,

<sup>85</sup> See paras. 122 to 137 above.

<sup>86</sup> See [www.unescap.org/esid/psis/meetings/pop\\_forum\\_2009](http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/meetings/pop_forum_2009).

<sup>87</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

*Recalling* its resolution 74 (XXIII) of 17 April 1967 on regional cooperation in the field of population, by which the Asian Population Conference was established as a statutory organ of the Commission, to be convened every ten years, for consideration of all aspects of population questions and their impact on social and economic development,

1. *Calls upon* countries in the Asian and Pacific region to commit themselves to fully implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;<sup>87</sup>

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system:

(a) To convene the sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Bangkok in 2012;

(b) To report to the Commission at its sixty-ninth session on the progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

### **Resolution 66/13**

#### **Strengthening regional cooperation in North and Central Asia<sup>88</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Recalling* its resolution 63/5 on the midterm review of the 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,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 63/260 of 24 December 2008 on development-related activities, whereby the Assembly approved additional regular budget resources for the establishment and operation of three new subregional offices, including the Subregional Office for North and Central Asia, which will also serve as the joint office with the Economic Commission for Europe for the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, and the strengthening of the existing office for the Pacific,

*Recognizing* that particular activities and programmes of the three subregional offices established by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/260 may cut across other subregions within the framework of the Commission, and, depending on their nature, may have different participating countries across the subregions,

*Recognizing also* the importance of having a

<sup>88</sup> See paras. 153 to 161 above.

concerted strategy and close coordination among countries of the Asia-Pacific region and the relevant development agencies, with a view to promoting cooperation among the countries of Central Asia in enhancing economic and social development, and the need to strengthen the capacity of the countries of Central Asia as a means of helping to narrow the wide development gap between countries in the region,

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution made by the secretariat to various development programmes in the Asia-Pacific region, including Central Asia, and the high-level support extended to the secretariat in that endeavour by other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies,

*Reaffirming* its commitment to the development programmes in Central Asia through existing bodies and programmes, including the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, which is jointly supported by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Europe,

*Welcoming* the outcomes of the 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,<sup>89</sup> which was held in Bangkok from 2 to 4 March 2010,

1. *Encourages* donor Governments and agencies, regional and international financial institutions, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to strengthen cooperation with and assist countries in the Central Asian subregion with their development programmes to enable them to integrate effectively into the regional and global economies;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly to endorse the present resolution and to encourage, at the global level, support for its implementation;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To implement 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;<sup>90</sup>

(b) To assist landlocked countries and transit countries in promoting reciprocal arrangements for transit transport;

(c) To strengthen and support the

implementation of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia;

(d) To help mobilize the necessary resources with which to provide technical assistance, upon the request of member States, particularly in such key sectors as transport and trade facilitation, management of water and energy resources, protection of the environment and climate change adaptation;

(e) To take necessary measures to increase the relevance and effectiveness of the role and activities of the Commission in Central Asia;

(f) To strengthen the role and capacity of the Subregional Office for North and Central Asia as an important mechanism for subregional cooperation and the coordination of international projects;

(g) To ensure that the priority areas identified by the 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 are fully supported through the proposed programme budget of the secretariat for the biennium 2012-2013 and that adequate resources are provided for that purpose;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

## **Resolution 66/14**

### **Continuation of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development<sup>91</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Recalling* its resolution 61/6 of 18 May 2005 on the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development, in which the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to submit a report to serve as the basis for a comprehensive review by the Commission at its sixty-sixth session with a view to determining whether the Centre should continue to operate thereafter,

*Recalling also* the Tunis Commitment, adopted on 18 November 2005 at the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society,<sup>92</sup> which reiterated the significant role of information and communications technology in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and underscored the critical importance of human

<sup>89</sup> See E/ESCAP/66/16, chap. I.

<sup>90</sup> *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.*

<sup>91</sup> See paras. 162 to 167 above.

<sup>92</sup> See A/60/687.

and institutional capacity-building for moving towards a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society,

*Recognizing* the strong demand for the services of the Centre expressed by member States,

*Noting with appreciation* that the Centre has been conducting its operations through voluntary financial and in kind contributions made by member States and, in particular, by the Government of the Republic of Korea,

*Taking note* of the recommendation made by the Governing Council of the Centre at its fourth session, held in 2009, that the operations of the Centre continue beyond 2011,<sup>93</sup>

*Taking note also* of the report on the evaluation of the Centre submitted to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session<sup>94</sup> commending the successful performance of the Centre and recommending the continuation of its operations,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of the Republic of Korea for its offer to continue to provide financial support to the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development and to serve as its host country;

2. *Decides* that the Centre should continue to operate beyond 2011 as a subsidiary body of the Commission, based on the Statute of the Centre, to strengthen the human and institutional capacities of members and associate members in the use of information and communications technology to support inclusive and sustainable economic and social development;

3. *Calls upon* all members and associate members, and encourages relevant bodies within the United Nations and other international organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, as appropriate:

(a) To support the efforts of the Centre aimed at strengthening subregional and regional cooperation in information and communications technology capacity-building through the sharing of information, experiences, knowledge and resources;

(b) To actively seek opportunities for collaboration with the Centre in the effort to strengthen

human and institutional capacities in the use of information and communications technology for sustainable socio-economic development in the Asia-Pacific region, including information and communications technology applications for e-government, e-commerce and community e-centres;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take all steps necessary for the implementation of the present resolution and to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its sixty-eighth session.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

### **Resolution 66/15**

#### **Strengthening of the evaluation function of the secretariat of the Commission<sup>95</sup>**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

*Taking note* of the report on evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2008-2009<sup>96</sup> and the reports on the evaluations of its regional institutions,<sup>97</sup>

*Mindful* that evaluation is a significant way to strengthen the accountability of the secretariat vis-à-vis members and associate members by providing evidence-based information on the performance and relevance of the activities and strategic operations of the secretariat, which are meant to assist countries in achieving development results,

1. *Commends* the Executive Secretary for her commitment to continuing to strengthen the evaluation function of the secretariat;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To ensure that the secretariat's programmatic work, including the work of divisions, subregional offices and regional institutions, is evaluated periodically;

(b) To submit to the Commission at its sixty-seventh session a plan for the above-mentioned evaluations.

*Fifth plenary meeting  
19 May 2010*

<sup>95</sup> See paras. 162 to 167 above.

<sup>96</sup> E/ESCAP/66/17 and Corr.1.

<sup>97</sup> E/ESCAP/66/18 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/66/19 and Add.1, and E/ESCAP/64/28 and Corr.1.

<sup>93</sup> See E/ESCAP/66/13, annex III, para. 2.

<sup>94</sup> E/ESCAP/66/18.

*Annex I*

**STATEMENT OF PROGRAMME BUDGET IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS  
AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION**

1. The requests contained in the resolutions listed below will have no additional programme budget implications for the approved programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011:<sup>a</sup>
  - (a) Resolution 66/1: Incheon Declaration
  - (b) Resolution 66/2: Five-Year Review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
  - (c) Resolution 66/3: Implementation of the Dhaka Outcome Document on the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries
  - (d) Resolution 66/4: Implementation of the Bangkok Declaration on Transport Development in Asia
  - (e) Resolution 66/5: Implementation of the Jakarta Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific
  - (f) Resolution 66/6: Improving road safety in Asia and the Pacific
  - (g) Resolution 66/7: Pacific Urban Agenda
  - (h) Resolution 66/8: Review of the proposal for the establishment of the Asian and Pacific centre for information, communication and space technology-enabled disaster management in the Islamic Republic of Iran
  - (i) Resolution 66/9: Full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its regional and global outcomes in the Asia-Pacific region
  - (j) Resolution 66/10: Regional call for action to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support in Asia and the Pacific
  - (k) Resolution 66/11: Regional preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012
  - (l) Resolution 66/12: Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference
  - (m) Resolution 66/13: Strengthening regional cooperation in North and Central Asia
  - (n) Resolution 66/14: Continuation of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development
  - (o) Resolution 66/15: Strengthening of the evaluation function of the secretariat of the Commission
2. Extrabudgetary resources, where appropriate, will be sought for the implementation of the activities required under the above-mentioned resolutions.
3. With respect to paragraph 2(d) of resolution 66/10, an additional output would need to be added to the programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011<sup>b</sup> to reflect the high-level intergovernmental review for the Asian and Pacific region to assess progress against commitments in the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS<sup>c</sup> and the Millennium Development Goals.
4. With respect to paragraph 3(g) of resolution 66/13, resources required beyond 2010-2011 will be addressed in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

<sup>a</sup> See General Assembly resolution 64/244 of 24 December 2009.

<sup>b</sup> Outputs are listed in the proposed programme budget submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session (A/64/6 (Sect. 18)). The proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 was approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/244.

<sup>c</sup> General Assembly resolution 60/262, annex.

*Annex II*

**MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS  
HELD SINCE THE SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION**

<i>Subsidiary body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Document symbol of report</i>
<b>Committees</b>		
<b>I. Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Development</b>	First session Bangkok 24-26 November 2009	E/ESCAP/66/5
Chair: Mr. Domingo Flores Panganiban (Philippines)		
Vice-Chair: Mr. Eugene L. Hotulev (Russian Federation)		
Mr. Michael Busai (Vanuatu)		
Rapporteur: Mr. Md. Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan (Bangladesh)		
<b>II. Committee on Trade and Investment</b>	First session Bangkok 4-6 November 2009	E/ESCAP/66/8
Chair: Mr. Feroz Ahmed (Bangladesh)		
Vice-Chair: Mr. Abdul Wassay Haqiqi (Afghanistan)		
Rapporteur: Mr. Sangay Wangdi (Bhutan)		
<b>III. Committee on Environment and Development</b>	First session Bangkok 2-4 December 2009	E/ESCAP/66/12
Chair: Mr. Dana Adyana Kartakusuma (Indonesia)		
Vice-Chair: Ms. Keobang A. Keola (Lao People's Democratic Republic)		
Mr. Masatoshi Sato (Japan)		
Mr. Mahmoud Khani Jooyabad (Islamic Republic of Iran)		
Ms. Marina Sirotkina (Russian Federation)		
Rapporteur: Mr. Yong-Jin Kim (Republic of Korea)		
<b>Governing Councils</b>		
<b>I. Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (APCICT)</b>	Fourth session Incheon, Republic of Korea 13 November 2009	E/ESCAP/66/13
Chair: Mr. Madapathage Don Raweendra Senanayake (Sri Lanka)		
Vice-Chair: Mr. Udi Rusadi (Indonesia)		
<b>II. Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT)</b>	Fifth session Bangkok 18 December 2009	E/ESCAP/66/9
Chair: Mr. Lukman Hakim (Indonesia)		
Vice-Chair: Ms. Samuwai Vani Rarawa (Fiji)		
<b>III. Governing Council of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM)</b>	Fifth session Bangkok 14-15 December 2009	E/ESCAP/66/10
Chair: Mr. San Vanty (Cambodia)		
Vice-Chair: Mr. Quoc Viet Nguyen (Viet Nam)		



<i>Subsidiary body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Document symbol of report</i>
<b>IV. Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (CAPSA)</b>	Sixth session Bangkok 23 March 2010	E/ESCAP/66/7
Chair: Mr. Tengku Mohd. Ariff Tengku Ahmad (Malaysia)		
Vice-Chair: Mr. Hasil Sembiring (Indonesia)		
Rapporteur: Mr. Abdul Kalam Azad (Bangladesh)		
<b>V. Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP)</b>	Fifth session Phuket, Thailand 16-17 November 2009	E/ESCAP/66/15
Chair: Mr. Feng Nailin (China)		
Vice-Chair: Mr. Makoto Shimizu (Japan)		
<b>Intergovernmental</b>		
<b>I. Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport</b>	First session Bangkok 14-18 December 2009	E/ESCAP/66/11
Chair: Mr. Syed Abul Hossain (Bangladesh)		
Vice-Chair: Mr. Tauch Chankosal (Cambodia)		
Mr. Kamal Nath (India)		
Mr. Bambang Susantono (Indonesia)		
Mr. Tadashi Shimura (Japan)		
Mr. Mamataliev Abdyrakhman (Kyrgyzstan)		
Mr. Sommad Pholsena (Lao People's Democratic Republic)		
Mr. Tugs Purevdorj (Mongolia)		
Mr. Pe Than (Myanmar)		
Mr. Mohammad Aftab Alam (Nepal)		
Ms. Anneli R. Lontoc (Philippines)		
Mr. Soon-Man Hong (Republic of Korea)		
Mr. Andrey Nedosekov (Russian Federation)		
Mr. Kuerkul Danchaivichit (Thailand)		
Rapporteur: Mr. Erdem Direkler (Turkey)		

	<i>Subsidiary body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Document symbol of report</i>
<b>II. Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Review Regional Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and Its Regional and Global Outcomes</b>		Bangkok 16-18 November 2009	E/ESCAP/66/14
Chair:	Ms. Fiamé Mata-afa (Samoa)		
Vice-Chair:	Ms. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury (Bangladesh)		
	Mr. Kouraiti Beniaato (Kiribati)		
	Mr. Ram Bachan Ahir Yadav (Nepal)		
	Ms. Tevita Falefau (Palau)		
	Ms. Yee Shoon Yu-Foo (Singapore)		
Rapporteur:	Ms. Yoriko Meguro (Japan)		
<b>III. 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</b>		Bangkok 2-4 March 2010	E/ESCAP/66/16
Chair:	Mr. Syed Bakri (Malaysia)		
Vice-Chair:	Mr. Masatoshi Sato (Japan)		
	Mr. Nikolay Pomoshchnikov (Russian Federation)		
	Mr. J.B. Disanayaka (Sri Lanka)		
Rapporteur:	Mr. Md. Abdullah Al Masud Chowdhury (Bangladesh)		

*Annex III*

**PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION**

**A. Publications issued since the sixty-fifth session\***

**Component: Executive direction and management**

*Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in an Era of Global Uncertainty: Asia-Pacific Regional Report 2009/10.* With Asian Development Bank and United Nations Development Programme. (E.10.II.F.10)

*Annual Report: 1 May 2008–29 April 2009. Economic and Social Council Official Records, 2009, Supplement No. 19.* E/2009/39-E/ESCAP/65/32.

*Asia-Pacific Publications Catalogue 2009.* ST/ESCAP/2576\*\*

ESCAP meeting documents 2009. ST/ESCAP/LIB/SER.F/29

**Subprogramme 1:**

**Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development**

*Asia-Pacific Development Journal:*

Vol. 16, No. 1, June 2009. ST/ESCAP/2539. (E.09.II.F.17)

Vol. 16, No. 2, Dec. 2009. ST/ESCAP/2548. (E.09.II.F.20)

*Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2010: Sustaining Recovery and Dynamism for Inclusive Development.* ST/ESCAP/2547. (E.10.II.F.10)

Macroeconomic Policy Brief:

No. 3. Strengthening social protection systems in Asia and the Pacific in the aftermath of the global financial crisis

Macroeconomic Update No. 1

**Subprogramme 2: Trade and investment**

ARTNeT Policy Brief Series:

No. 18. Why do least developed countries in Asia not benefit more from transfers of technology?

No. 19. Enhancing export diversification through trade facilitation

No. 20. Does decentralization foster a good trade and investment climate? Early lessons from Indonesian decentralization

No. 21. Policy responses to the rice crisis: past practices and recommendations for South Asia

No. 22. New technologies, domestic regulation and telecommunications liberalization

No. 23. External financing in South Asia: the remittances option

No. 24. Towards a meaningful trade policy agenda for the G-20 in 2010

No. 25. The global crisis and protectionism in the services sector: implications of current findings

*Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade Newsletter:*

Vol. 5, No. 2, June – Sept. 2009

Vol. 6, No. 1, Oct. 2009 – Jan. 2010

*Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2009: Trade-led Recovery and Beyond.* ST/ESCAP/2549. (E.09.II.F.19)

*Business Process Analysis Guide to Simplify Trade Procedures.* ST/ESCAP/2558. (E.09.II.F.21)

*Designing and Implementing Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific* (jointly with ADB)

Studies in Trade and Investment:

65. Globalization of production and competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises in Asia and the Pacific: trends and prospects. ST/ESCAP/2540. (E.09.II.F.23)

66. Impact of trade facilitation on export competitiveness: a regional perspective. ST/ESCAP/2543. (E.09.II.F.10)

67. Challenges and opportunities for trade and financial integration in Asia and the Pacific. ST/ESCAP/2563

68. Creating business and social value: the Asian way to integrate CSR into business strategies. ST/ESCAP/2565

*Trade Statistics in Policymaking: A Handbook of Commonly Used Trade Indices and Indicators.* Revised. ST/ESCAP/2559

*Traders' Manual for Landlocked Countries: Tajikistan.* \*\* ST/ESCAP/2545

United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (UNNeXT; with ESCAP and the Economic Commission for Europe) Briefs:

No. 1. Towards a single-window trading environment: gaining support from senior-level policymakers

No. 2. Towards a single-window trading environment: best practice cases in single-window implementation: case of Singapore's TradeNet

\* Where applicable, the ESCAP document symbol and (in parentheses) United Nations publication sales number are noted.

\*\* The publication is available online only.

**Subprogramme 3: Transport**

A guidebook on public-private partnership in infrastructure\*\*

*Review of Developments in Transport in Asia and the Pacific 2009*. ST/ESCAP/2566

Towards a set of guidelines on the integrated assessment of transport policy and programmes

*Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*:\*\*

No. 78: *Development of Dry Ports*. ST/ESCAP/SER.E/78

No. 79: *Road Safety*. ST/ESCAP/SER.E/79

#### **Subprogramme 4: Environment and development**

Discussion Paper Series:

*Good Practices and Lessons Learned of the Second Regional Workshop on "Development of Eco-efficient Water Infrastructure in Asia and the Pacific"*. ST/ESCAP/2573 (E.10.II.F.13)

Energy Policy Trends in Asia and the Pacific, Policy Briefs: \*\*

No. 1. Renewable energy for the agricultural sector to enhance energy security and food security. ST/ESCAP/2564

*Environment and Development News*: \*\*

Vol. 9, No. 2, June 2009

Vol. 9, No. 3, Sept. 2009

Vol. 9, No. 4, Dec. 2009

Vol. 10, No. 1, Mar. 2010

Greening of Economic Growth Series:

Innovative socio-economic policy for improving environmental performance: Payments for ecosystem services. ST/ESCAP/2560

Eco-efficiency indicators: measuring resource-use efficiency and the impact of economic activities on the environment. ST/ESCAP/2561

#### **Subprogramme 5: Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction**

ESCAP Technical Paper: \*\*

IDD/TP-09-03. Collaborative development of a regional disaster management support platform on space-based information sharing and analysis

Policy Brief in ICT Applications in the Knowledge Economy:

No. 4. Information and communications technology for disaster risk reduction

No. 5. Using telecentres for disaster risk management at the community level

No. 6. Spatial data infrastructures to support informed decision-making for inclusive and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific

No. 7. Improving health care in rural areas: information and communications technology solutions for least developed countries

*Regional Progress and Strategies towards Building the Information Society in Asia and the Pacific*. ST/ESCAP/2555. (E.10.II.F.6)

#### **Subprogramme 6: Social development**

*2009 ESCAP Population data sheet*

*Asia-Pacific Population Journal*:

Vol. 24, No. 1, Apr. 2009. Special issue. ST/ESCAP/2541. (E.09.II.F.99)

Vol. 24, No. 2, Aug. 2009 ST/ESCAP/2550. (E.09.II.F.98)

Vol. 24, No. 3 Dec. 2009. Special issue. ST/ESCAP/2572. (E.09.II.F.97)

*Disability at a Glance 2009: a Profile of 36 Countries and Areas in Asia and the Pacific*. ST/ESCAP/2513. (E.08.II.F.21)

Gender and Development Discussion Paper Series: \*\*

No. 22. In the care of the State and the family: understanding care of the elderly through macro and micro perspectives. ST/ESCAP/2562

*Older-age Parents and the AIDS Epidemic in Thailand: Changing Impacts in the Era of Antiretroviral Therapy*. ST/ESCAP/2552. (E.10.II.F.3)

*Strengthening Life Skills for Positive Youth Health Behaviour: an Overview and Discussion Paper*. ESCAP/2542. (E.09.II.F.16)

#### **Subprogramme 7: Statistics**

*Short-term Indicators for Asia and the Pacific* \*\*  
[online database, updated 10 June 2009]

*Statistical Newsletter*: \*\*

Second Quarter, 2009

Third Quarter, 2009

Fourth Quarter, 2009

First Quarter, 2010

*Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific 2009*. ST/ESCAP/2554. (E.10.II.F.1)

#### **Subprogramme 8: Subregional activities for development**

*Pacific Perspectives 2009: Crises and Opportunities*. ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre, ST/ESCAP/2551. (E.09.II.F.25)

**B. Documents submitted to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session**

<b>Document symbol</b>	<b>Document title</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>
<i>General series</i>		
E/ESCAP/66/1	Port Vila Outcome Statement	2 (a)
E/ESCAP/66/2	Subprogramme overview: Issues and challenges related to inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	3
E/ESCAP/66/3	Summary of progress in the implementation of Commission resolutions	3
E/ESCAP/66/4 and Corr.1	Programme performance report for the biennium 2008-2009	3
E/ESCAP/66/5	Report of the Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Development on its first session	3 (a)
E/ESCAP/66/6	Asia-Pacific regional review of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010: Dhaka Outcome Document	3 (a)
E/ESCAP/66/7	Report of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific	3 (a)
E/ESCAP/66/8	Report of the Committee on Trade and Investment on its first session	3 (b)
E/ESCAP/66/9	Report of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology	3 (b)
E/ESCAP/66/10	Report of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery	3 (b)
E/ESCAP/66/11	Report of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport on its first session	3 (c)
E/ESCAP/66/12	Report of the Committee on Environment and Development on its first session	3 (d)
E/ESCAP/66/13	Report of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development	3 (e)
E/ESCAP/66/14 and Corr.1	Report of the Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Review Regional Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and Its Regional and Global Outcomes	3 (g)
E/ESCAP/66/15 and Corr.1	Report of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific	3 (h)
E/ESCAP/66/16	Report of the 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	3 (i)
E/ESCAP/66/17 and Corr.1	Report on evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2008-2009	4 (a)
E/ESCAP/66/18 and Add.1	Report on the evaluation of APCICT	4 (a)
E/ESCAP/66/19 and Add.1	Report on the evaluation of SIAP	4 (a)
E/ESCAP/66/20	Proposed programme changes for the biennium 2010-2011	4 (b)
E/ESCAP/66/21	Management issues: Draft strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013	4 (c)
E/ESCAP/66/22	Overview of technical cooperation activities and extrabudgetary contributions	4 (d)

Document symbol	Document title	Agenda item
E/ESCAP/66/23 and Corr.1	Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	5
E/ESCAP/66/24	Dates, venue and theme topic for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission (2011)	6
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E/ESCAP/66/26	Financing an Inclusive and Green Future	8
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E/ESCAP/66/L.1	Provisional agenda	
E/ESCAP/66/L.2	Annotated provisional agenda	
E/ESCAP/66/L.3	Draft report	1
E/ESCAP/66/L.4	Draft resolution: Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference	3 (g)
E/ESCAP/65/L.5	Draft resolution: Implementation of the Dhaka Outcome Document on the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries	3(a)
E/ESCAP/66/L.6	Draft resolution: Implementation of the Bangkok Declaration on Transport Development in Asia	3 (c)
E/ESCAP/66/L.7	Draft resolution: Improving road safety in Asia and the Pacific	3 (c)
E/ESCAP/66/L.8	Draft resolution: Regional preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012	3 (g)
E/ESCAP/66/L.9	Draft resolution: Strengthening of the evaluation function of the secretariat of the Commission	4 (a)
E/ESCAP/66/L.10	Draft resolution: Continuation of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development	4 (a)
E/ESCAP/66/L.11	Draft resolution: Implementation of the Jakarta Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific	3 (c)
E/ESCAP/66/L.12	Draft resolution: Pacific Urban Agenda	3 (d)
E/ESCAP/66/L.13	Draft resolution: Five-Year Review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	2 (a)
E/ESCAP/66/L.14	Draft resolution: Regional call for action to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support in Asia and the Pacific	3 (g)
E/ESCAP/66/L.15	Draft resolution: Full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its regional and global outcomes in the Asia-Pacific region	3 (g)
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E/ESCAP/66/INF/5	Report of the Typhoon Committee	3 (f)
E/ESCAP/66/INF/6	Report of the Panel on Tropical Cyclones	3 (f)
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ISSN: 0252 – 2284  
ISBN: 978-92-1-880188-3  
Printed at ESCAP, Bangkok  
June 2010 – 1,250

United Nations publication  
E/2010/39  
E/ESCAP/66/27

