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Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda

Management issues: Programme changes for the biennium 2012-2013**Programme changes for the biennium 2012-2013****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

The present document contains the proposed changes to the programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013 for which a legislative decision of the Commission is sought.

The proposed changes are designed mainly to address new mandates adopted after the Commission's endorsement of the programme of work for 2012-2013.

The Commission may note that the proposed changes will contribute to the achievement of the expected accomplishments and have no additional regular programme budget implications.

The Commission may wish to consider the proposed changes with a view to endorsing them for incorporation in the programme of work for 2012-2013.

Proposed programme changes for the biennium 2012-2013

Output in the programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013	Proposed change	Justification
Subprogramme 2: Trade and investment		
Expected accomplishment:		
(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement more effective and coherent policies on trade, investment and enterprise development		
Non-recurrent publications:		
<i>PB147135:</i> e-TISNET quarterly newsletters (news and sources) (2) (2012, 2013)	<i>Modified to:</i> Trade Facilitation newsletters (electronic) (2) (2012, 2013)	Given the importance of trade facilitation and the many stakeholders (national and regional) in need of capacity-building and coordination in this area, as well as the fact that it is now easier to access and search general trade and investment news and information online, a more specialized newsletter focusing specifically on trade facilitation is expected to be more effective in achieving the expected accomplishment.
Subprogramme 3: Transport		
Expected accomplishment:		
(a) Enhanced knowledge and increased capacity of member States to develop and implement effective and sustainable transport policies and programmes, including those targeting the Millennium Development Goals and road safety		
Substantive servicing of meetings:		
<i>PB146933:</i> Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport: plenary (2013) (6)	<i>Postponed to 2014</i>	It is proposed that the Forum be postponed to 2014 because the Ministerial Conference on Transport, which had originally been scheduled to be held in November 2011, was postponed to March 2012.
Parliamentary documentation:		
<i>PB146936:</i> Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport: report on major issues related to transport (2013) (1)	<i>Postponed to 2014</i>	Ditto

Output in the programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013	Proposed change	Justification
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<p><i>PB146937:</i></p> <p>Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport, second session: report of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport (2013) (1)</p>	<p><i>Postponed to 2014</i></p>	<p>Ditto</p>
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Subprogramme 4: Environment and development

Expected accomplishment:

(a) Enhanced understanding and capacity of local and national governments and other stakeholders to develop and implement strategies for integrating environmental sustainability in economic and social development, including the green growth approach and other effective policy initiatives, effective planning and management of natural resources development and gender mainstreaming for poverty reduction and inclusive and sustainable development in urban and rural areas

(b) Strengthened regional cooperation on the development and implementation of strategies for integrating environmental sustainability in economic and social development, including the application of the green growth approach and other effective policy initiatives, enhancing access to modern energy services for all and energy security, improving water resources management and promoting sustainable urban development

(c) Strengthened consensus among ESCAP member States on regional perspectives in strategies for integrating environmental sustainability in economic and social development, including the application of the green growth approach, resource efficiency, efficient management of energy and water resources, eco-city development and other effective policy initiatives

Substantive servicing of meetings:

<p><i>Added:</i></p> <p>Asian and Pacific Energy Forum (8) (2013)</p>	<p>In resolution 67/2 on promoting regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy in Asia and the Pacific, the Commission called upon all members and associate members to further promote regional cooperation in addressing energy security and requested that the Asian and Pacific Energy Forum be convened in 2013 at the ministerial level (see E/ESCAP/67/23, page 67, para. 7 (e)).</p>
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Parliamentary documentation:

<p><i>Added:</i></p> <p>Asian and Pacific Energy Forum: report on major issues related to energy security and the sustainable use of energy (2) (2013)</p>	<p>Ditto</p>
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Output in the programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013	Proposed change	Justification
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Added:

Asian and Pacific Energy Forum: report of the Asian and Pacific Energy Forum (1) (2013)

Ditto

Expected accomplishment:

(b) Strengthened regional cooperation on the development and implementation of strategies for integrating environmental sustainability in economic and social development, including the application of the green growth approach and other effective policy initiatives, enhancing access to modern energy services for all and energy security, improving water resources management and promoting sustainable urban development

Ad hoc expert groups and related preparatory work:

Added:

Expert group meeting on enhancing energy security in Asia and the Pacific (1) (2012) (RB/XB)

Recommended by the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (ACPR) and endorsed by the Commission at its sixty-seventh session (see E/ESCAP/67/23, para. 242)

Technical material:

Added:

Analytical study on improving energy security in Asia and the Pacific (1) (2012-2013)

Ditto

Subprogramme 8: Subregional activities for development

Component 3: Subregional activities for development in North and Central Asia

Expected accomplishment:

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

Ad hoc expert groups and related preparatory work:

Added:

Strengthening subregional cooperation to support socio-economic development in North and Central Asia (1) (2012-2013)

Recommended by ACPR and endorsed by the Commission at its sixty-seventh session (see E/ESCAP/67/23, para. 242)

Output in the programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013	Proposed change	Justification
Component 4: Subregional activities for development in South and South-West Asia		
Expected accomplishment:		
(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, that address gaps in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, infrastructure development, trade and transport facilitation, disaster risk reduction, energy and food security		
Ad hoc expert groups and related preparatory work:		
<i>Added:</i> Ad hoc expert group on improving infrastructure development in South and South-West Asia (1) (2013)	Recommended by ACPR and endorsed by the Commission at its sixty-seventh session (see E/ESCAP/67/23, para. 242)	
Field project:		
<i>Added:</i> Technical cooperation project on mechanisms to promote infrastructure development in South and South-West Asia, with a focus on transport, specifically trade and transport facilitation, including connectivity (1) (2012-2013)	Ditto	