

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

ANNUAL REPORT
20 May 2016 – 19 MAY 2017

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 2017**

SUPPLEMENT No. 19



UNITED NATIONS

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List of abbreviations

APCICT	Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development
APDIM	Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management
APCTT	Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology
CAPSA	Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture
CSAM	Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Machinery
SIAP	Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

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

Introduction

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific held its seventy-third session at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 15 to 19 May 2017. The present report covers the period from 20 May 2016 to 19 May 2017 and contains the conclusions reached by the Commission. The account of proceedings of the session is contained in a separate document (E/ESCAP/73/41).

Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

2. At its seventy-third session, the Commission adopted nine resolutions and 43 decisions, which are reproduced below. The nine resolutions are brought to the attention of the Council.

A. Resolutions adopted by the Commission at its seventy-third session

Resolution 73/1

A conference structure of the Commission aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 71/1 of 29 May 2015 on restructuring the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to be fit for the evolving post-2015 development agenda, in which the Commission decided to conduct a review of the reforms initiated through that resolution at its seventy-third session and requested the Executive Secretary to submit a report, which would serve as a basis for that review, on the implementation of those reforms and include recommendations on further adjustments to the conference structure, if necessary,

Recalling also its resolution 71/11 of 29 May 2015 on the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management and resolution 72/6 of 19 May 2016 on committing to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific,

Noting the Commission's unique role as the most representative body in Asia and the Pacific and its comprehensive mandate as the main economic and social development centre of the United Nations development system in the region,

Having considered the note by the secretariat on the review of the implementation of resolution 71/1,¹

Having also considered the reports of the various committees, governing councils of the regional institutions, and the ministerial conferences held since the seventy-first session of the Commission, as well as the reports of the Third² and Fourth³ Asia-Pacific Forums on Sustainable Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 in its entirety on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

¹ E/ESCAP/73/36 and Corr.1.

² E/ESCAP/72/16.

³ E/ESCAP/73/31.

1. *Decides* to revise with immediate effect its conference structure, to be fit for purpose and in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁴ in the following manner:

(a) Each session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific shall comprise a senior officials segment followed by a ministerial segment, for a duration not exceeding five working days, and the duration of each segment shall be decided by the secretariat in consultation with member States;

(b) The subsidiary structure of the Commission shall also include the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, the terms of reference of which are annexed to the present resolution;

(c) No more than eight ad hoc ministerial conferences or other intergovernmental meetings shall be held in addition to the regular calendar of intergovernmental meetings during each biennium, and the total number of days shall not exceed 16, unless the Commission decides otherwise;

(d) Subject to the approval of the Commission, a committee may be convened at the ministerial level on an ad-hoc basis to ensure high-level engagement on the issues to be addressed;

(e) Regional institutions under the auspices of the Commission shall include the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management;

(f) Unless otherwise specified by the Commission, its rules of procedure, including those pertaining to the decision-making process, shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the committees and other meetings and conferences convened under its conference structure;

2. *Also decides* that the seating arrangement for the members and associate members of the Commission at its sessions shall be determined by drawing the name of one member for the first seat, with all other members following in English alphabetical order;

3. *Invites* development partners, in particular the relevant organizations of the United Nations development system, to collaborate with the Commission in promoting sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region, through all appropriate mechanisms, including active participation in Commission sessions and enhanced cooperation on projects and policies;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to strengthen and promote communication, cooperation and collaboration among the relevant organizations of the United Nations development system in Asia and the Pacific and other stakeholders, as appropriate, in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by member States in order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to undertake systematic monitoring and evaluation of the conference structure and its congruence with the programme priorities of the Commission with a view to increasing efficiency, effectiveness and synergies of the work of the Commission, keeping in mind General Assembly resolution 71/243;

6. *Decides* to conduct a review of its conference structure at its seventy-eighth session, in 2022, with a midpoint review at its seventy-fifth session, in 2019, and requests the Executive Secretary to submit a report in both cases, with a focus on the programme areas of the Commission, which will serve as a basis for that review.

*6th plenary meeting
19 May 2017*

⁴ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

Annex

Terms of reference of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

A. Overall functions

1. The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development is an annual, inclusive intergovernmental forum. It supports preparations for the high-level political forum on sustainable development in the context of both the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.
2. The Forum will serve as a regional platform for:
 - (a) Supporting countries, in particular countries with special needs, including through enhancing their capacity for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - (b) Providing a regional perspective on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by identifying regional trends, and consolidating and sharing best practices and lessons learned, taking into account the contributions of other United Nations system bodies at the regional level, other regional and subregional organizations and relevant stakeholders;
 - (c) Supporting follow-up and review of progress on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals at the regional level through: assessing progress and providing opportunities for peer learning related to the theme and goals that will be reviewed at the high-level political forum; supporting the presentation of voluntary national reviews; and undertaking periodic review of progress of the road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.
3. These functions will benefit from inter-agency support including through the United Nations Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism.

B. Conduct of the Forum

4. As part of the conference structure of the Commission, the Forum will be convened annually as an inclusive intergovernmental forum ahead of the high-level political forum. The theme of the Forum should be consistent with that of the high-level political forum and the cluster of goals to be reviewed in-depth should be identical to the cluster of goals under the high-level political forum.
5. The Forum will not get ahead of, or pre-judge decisions of the high-level political forum, increase the reporting burden of member States or increase the regular budget of the Commission beyond what has already been approved by the General Assembly.
6. The current format, including the election of the bureau for each session, could be maintained and provide space for multi-stakeholder engagement for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in consultation, as appropriate, with member States.
7. The outcome of the Forum will be in the form of a report with a chair's summary annexed to the report.
8. The Forum may consider subregional perspectives on the themes addressed by the Forum. Preparatory meetings of stakeholders may be convened, within existing resources.
9. The Forum, including stakeholder engagement, will be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission as well as the modalities of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council as long as there is no conflict between them.

10. During each session, a member of the bureau of the previous session could report on the discussions at the intervening high-level political forum and on the conclusions of the previous session of the Forum.

11. The conduct of the Forum will avoid duplication with other regional forums and platforms; in the interest of efficiency, where appropriate, the Forum will be convened in coordination or collaboration with other forums and platforms.

C. Relationship of the Forum with the conference structure of the Commission

12. The report of the Forum as defined in paragraph 7 will be brought to the attention of the subsequent session of the Commission by the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Forum.

13. The Forum could receive inputs from the committees that are subsidiary to the Commission as well as other relevant stakeholders.

14. The Forum could benefit from advice provided by the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission as a modality for consulting member States between sessions of the Forum.

15. In the years when the high-level political forum meets under the auspices of the General Assembly at the summit level, which is every four years, the Forum may converge with the Commission session in April/May, and the Commission and the Forum will share the same theme, where appropriate. In other years when the high-level political forum meets under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, the Forum shall meet at the senior technical level.

16. If requested by member States, the terms of reference of the Forum may be revised upon recommendation of the Forum and endorsement by the Commission, taking into account new inputs from the high-level political forum and based on periodic review by member States.

Resolution 73/2

Strengthening the regional mechanism for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/137 of 12 December 2014, by which the Assembly endorsed the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024, adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, which was held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014 and at which all relevant stakeholders expressed their commitment to the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, and resolution 71/3 of 29 May 2015 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Vienna Programme of Action to address the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries arising from their landlockedness, remoteness and geographical constraints in a more coherent manner and thus to contribute to an enhanced rate of sustainable and inclusive growth, which can contribute to the eradication of poverty,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda held in 2015, by which it created a comprehensive, far-reaching

and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 64/214 of 21 December 2009, in which the Assembly welcomed the establishment of the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries, and resolution 69/137, in which it urged ratification of the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries,

Welcoming the work done by the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries to enhance the analytical capability of landlocked developing countries and to maximize the efficiency of coordinated efforts for effective implementation of the internationally agreed provisions on landlocked developing countries,

Welcoming also the efforts by the Government of Viet Nam in hosting the United Nations High-level Meeting for the Euro-Asia Region on Improving Cooperation on Transit, Trade Facilitation and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, held in Hanoi from 7 to 9 March 2017, and noting the outcome of the meeting,⁵

Acknowledging the contributions of regional integration frameworks, including the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network,⁶ the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network⁷ and the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports,⁸ in helping landlocked developing countries to overcome constraints resulting from their landlockedness,

Recognizing the need to promote public and private investment in regional trade, transport, communication and energy networks, as well as the special vulnerabilities and needs of landlocked developing countries,

Having considered the note by the secretariat on its support for regional implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024,⁹

Recognizing that regional integration initiatives, such as the Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal Motor Vehicles Agreement, the Belt and Road Initiative, the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Programme and the Master Plan on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Connectivity 2025, could effectively facilitate the participation of landlocked developing countries in the global economy, when carried out in accordance with relevant internationally accepted rules, obligations and best practices,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024¹⁰ constitutes a fundamental framework for genuine partnerships between landlocked developing countries, transit countries and their development partners at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels;

⁵ http://unohrrls.org/event/euro-asia_ildcs-transit-countries_viet-nam/.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2323, No. 41607.

⁷ Ibid., vol. 2596, No. 46171.

⁸ Resolution 69/7.

⁹ E/ESCAP/73/3.

¹⁰ General Assembly resolution 69/137, annex II.

2. *Invites* landlocked developing countries, transit countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other stakeholders to implement, at all levels, the relevant actions that have been agreed upon in the Vienna Programme of Action under its priorities for action – namely, fundamental transit policy issues, infrastructure development and maintenance, international trade and trade facilitation, regional integration and cooperation, structural economic transformation and means of implementation – in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner;

3. *Invites* development partners to provide targeted technical and financial support, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the specific actions listed in the Vienna Programme of Action and for ongoing regional integration processes involving landlocked developing countries;

4. *Stresses* that the Vienna Programme of Action calls for regional integration and cooperation among landlocked developing countries that goes beyond trade and trade facilitation, and recognizes that mainstreaming regional connectivity in all dimensions, including economic, sociocultural and people-to-people, is vital for increasing their competitiveness and diversification and helping to maximize the benefits of globalization;

5. *Underlines* that regional integration initiatives can effectively facilitate the participation of landlocked developing countries in the global economy;

6. *Also underlines* the importance of effective mobilization by landlocked developing countries and their transit country neighbours of adequate domestic and external resources for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, and the critical role that the private sector can play in supporting implementation, including through foreign direct investment;

7. *Encourages* those Asia-Pacific landlocked developing countries that have not done so, to ratify or accede to the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for the Landlocked Developing Countries, at their earliest convenience, in order to make the Think Tank fully operational, and invites the organizations of the United Nations system, member countries and relevant international and regional organizations to support the Think Tank, as appropriate;

8. *Welcomes* the elements included in the Nairobi Package adopted at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, and invites members to ratify and fully implement the Agreement on Trade Facilitation;

9. *Underlines* the importance of the successful implementation, follow-up and review of the Vienna Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

10. *Also underlines* that effective links, at the regional level, should be made between the review arrangements for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Vienna Programme of Action;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Continue to support the development efforts of landlocked developing countries, especially in areas related to regional connectivity, competitiveness and integration frameworks;

(b) Continue to provide all possible assistance to Asia-Pacific landlocked developing countries in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action;

(c) Continue to ensure the coordinated follow-up to and monitoring of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and submit annual analytical reports, as called for in paragraph 75 of the Vienna Programme of Action, to the

Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries;

12. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventy-fifth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*6th plenary meeting
19 May 2017*

Resolution 73/3

Advancing integrated and seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Reaffirming its commitment to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which a set of goals and targets were adopted to achieve sustainable development,

Recalling the Bangkok Declaration on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific as endorsed in resolution 70/1 of 23 May 2014 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling also its resolution 71/8 of 29 May 2015 on strengthening intraregional and interregional connectivity in Asia and the Pacific according priority to developing comprehensive and seamless connectivity of the region, and expressing its appreciation for the progress made in the implementation of that resolution,

Taking note of the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific,¹¹ as adopted by the Fourth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, held in Bangkok from 29 to 31 March 2017, in which connectivity was identified as a priority area of cooperation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing the crucial and substantive role of connectivity in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and in strengthening regional integration in Asia and the Pacific,

Recognizing also the centrality of connectivity in deepening and widening regional cooperation and integration to promote trade, attract investment, boost tourism, foster social and cultural ties and achieve greater mobility, thus creating opportunities for achieving wider development objectives,

Conscious of the common desire of members and associate members, in particular bearing in mind that the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States deserve special attention to remove bottlenecks to development, for enhanced regional connectivity to promote economic growth and to achieve shared prosperity for all,

Acknowledging the fundamental role of regional agreements and arrangements, including the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network,¹² the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network,¹³ the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports,¹⁴ the Regional Strategic Framework for

¹¹ E/ESCAP/73/31, annex II.

¹² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2323, No. 41607.

¹³ Ibid., vol. 2596, No. 46171.

¹⁴ Resolution 69/7.

the Facilitation of International Road Transport,¹⁵ the Regional Cooperation Framework for the Facilitation of International Railway Transport,¹⁶ ongoing cooperation on the Asia-Pacific information superhighway and ongoing work related to energy connectivity and the “Asian Energy Highway”,¹⁷ in promoting regional connectivity,

Expressing its appreciation for national, subregional and regional initiatives and efforts to advance connectivity in the region and beyond, and noting with appreciation the convening of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, which was held in Beijing on 14 and 15 May 2017 with broad and high-level participation from Asia and the Pacific,

Bearing in mind the importance of integrating the three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – of sustainable development,

Emphasizing the importance of the application of new technologies, in particular the innovative use of information and communications technology, to increase energy efficiency and improve environmental performance, in developing integrated and seamless connectivity for sustainable development,

Expressing its appreciation for the Executive Secretary’s efforts in supporting cooperation among members and associate members to strengthen and promote regional connectivity, including contributions to relevant initiatives,

Acknowledging various partnerships established among countries, multilateral organizations, programmes and other related stakeholders to advance regional and subregional connectivity,

1. *Resolves* to continue efforts and cooperation on regional connectivity to achieve integrated and seamless connectivity, through extensive consultations, joint contributions and shared benefits, and encourage members and associate members to promote dialogue on policy coordination and cooperation in the areas of infrastructure, trade, finance, people-to-people exchanges, transport, energy and information and communications technology, in accordance with relevant internationally accepted rules, obligations and best practices;

2. *Invites* member States that have not yet done so to consider the possibility of becoming parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network,¹³ the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network¹² and the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports;¹⁴

3. *Invites* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies, international and regional organizations, within their mandates, and the private sector as well as civil society, as appropriate, to actively participate in and contribute to integrated and seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Continue to explore ways to comprehensively integrate sustainable development into regional connectivity and the regional integration process;

(b) Continue to provide the necessary support, in accordance with the existing mandate of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, to promote integrated and seamless connectivity for sustainable development in the areas of transport, trade, energy and information and communications technology in the region;

(c) Continue efforts to facilitate discussions, provide capacity-building and policy advice, and exchange of best practices among members and associate members on applying new innovative technologies to connectivity, so as to increase

¹⁵ Resolution 68/4, annex, appendix II.

¹⁶ Resolution 71/7, annex.

¹⁷ See resolution 68/11.

their cost-effectiveness and sustainability for the furtherance of regional connectivity and integration;

(d) Continue to cooperate with members and associate members to support their effective implementation of infrastructure projects associated with national, subregional and regional initiatives, including the Silk Road Economic Belt and Twenty-first Century Maritime Silk Road, the Global Infrastructure Initiative, the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Programme, the Eurasia Initiative, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Connectivity Blueprint for 2015-2025 and the Master Plan on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Connectivity 2025, in accordance with relevant internationally accepted rules, obligations and best practices;

(e) Prepare a report on integrated and seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific in 2018, to be updated every three years until 2030 and submitted to the Commission at its related sessions, to provide information on the progress made, challenges remaining and the way forward for regional connectivity;

(f) Continue to build and strengthen partnerships between the Commission and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, programmes and international financial institutions in order to promote integrated and seamless connectivity and sustainable development;

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

*6th plenary meeting
19 May 2017*

Resolution 73/4

Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Welcoming the successful outcome of the third session of the Ministerial Conference on Transport, held in Moscow from 5 to 9 December 2016,^{18,19}

1. *Endorses* the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific;¹⁹

2. *Encourages* all parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network²⁰ to consider accession to the Intergovernmental Agreement on International Road Transport along the Asian Highway Network;²¹

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Accord priority to the implementation of the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2017-2021);²²

(b) Carry out in 2021 an evaluation of the implementation of phase I of the Regional Action Programme and submit a report with recommendations to the Ministerial Conference on Transport at its fourth session;

¹⁸ E/ESCAP/73/15.

¹⁹ E/ESCAP/73/15/Add.1.

²⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2323, No. 41607.

²¹ <http://editing.escap.un.org/sites/default/files/Intergovernmental-Agreement-on-International-Road-Transport-along-the-Asian-Highway-Network-All-languages.pdf>.

²² E/ESCAP/73/15/Add.1, annex I.

(c) Seek cooperation from the Economic Commission for Europe and other international organizations, and accelerate the ongoing work towards the establishment and full functioning of the interregional coordination committee on transport between Asia and Europe;

(d) Continue to support the implementation of the Intergovernmental Agreement on International Road Transport along the Asian Highway Network signed by China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation during the third session of the Ministerial Conference on Transport;

(e) Report to the Commission at its seventy-fifth and seventy-seventh sessions on the implementation of the present resolution.

*6th plenary meeting
19 May 2017*

Resolution 73/5

Strengthening Asia-Pacific's support for the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and acknowledging the importance of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 70/226 of 22 December 2015, in which the Assembly decided to convene the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, to be co-hosted by the Governments of Fiji and Sweden,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, by which it endorsed the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda and whose full implementation is critical for the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 14,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/303 of 9 September 2016 on the modalities for the Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,

Reaffirming resolution 72/9 of 19 May 2016 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on regional cooperation to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, in which, inter alia, it called for greater cooperation, collaboration and coordination between subregions and regional organizations of Asia and the Pacific and through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation for promoting the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources in the implementation of Goal 14,

Recognizing the ongoing assessment by the secretariat of the capacity development needs of Asia-Pacific countries with respect to the implementation of Goal 14,

Acknowledging the discussion of Goal 14 at the Fourth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, which will inform the high-level political forum on sustainable development,

Noting the preparatory work undertaken for the Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, which is to be held in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017,

1. *Calls upon* all members and associate members to support the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;
2. *Encourages* members and associate members to consider making voluntary commitments, echoing the General Assembly in its resolution 70/303, by 9 June 2017;
3. *Invites* members and associate members to share good practices, lessons learned and information on partnerships on oceans and seas;
4. *Encourages* members and associate members to continue to enhance their capacity in relation to the sustainable management and use of oceans, in support of resolution 72/9 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:
 - (a) Continue to support current partnerships and develop new partnerships, where appropriate, as well as the Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, in line with its mandates, including those emanating from Commission resolutions 69/17 of 1 May 2013 and 72/9, and through coordination and collaboration with development partners;
 - (b) Continue to support countries, especially least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, in sharing experiences and cooperation on the management of natural resources, including oceans and seas, in light of the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific;²³
 - (c) Continue to support current regional partnerships and develop new regional partnerships, where appropriate, for enhancing data and statistical capacities for Goal 14 in line with the document entitled “Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: a collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community”, adopted by the Committee of Statistics at its fifth session;²⁴
6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventy-fifth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*6th plenary meeting
19 May 2017*

Resolution 73/6
Implementation of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative through regional cooperation

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 71/212 of 21 December 2016 on information and communications technologies for development, in which the Assembly recognized the role of regional commissions in the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society processes and called upon the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to ensure that no one was left behind and no country was left behind in its implementation,

²³ E/ESCAP/73/31, annex II.

²⁴ E/ESCAP/CST(5)/1.

Recalling also the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,²⁵ in particular the goals and targets on striving to provide universal access to the Internet by 2020, developing productive capacities and expanding broadband connectivity, e-networking and e-connectivity,

Recalling further the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024,²⁶ in particular the actions required to support landlocked developing countries in developing their information and communications technology sector, expanding broadband infrastructure and building capacity for the use of modern and affordable communications technology,

Reaffirming the call for support for enhancing and promoting connectivity and use of information and communications technology articulated in the annex to General Assembly resolution 69/15 of 14 November 2014 on the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,

Recognizing that access to information and communications technology and related capacity-building, including for youth, older persons, women, people with disabilities, and remote and rural communities, are fundamental to reducing the digital divide, alleviating poverty and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling resolution 69/10 of 1 May 2013 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on promoting regional information and communications technology connectivity and building knowledge-networked societies in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling also its resolution 71/10 of 29 May 2015 on strengthening regional information and communications technology connectivity through the establishment of the open-ended Working Group on the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway, and noting that a proposal for amendments to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network²⁷ and the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network²⁸ is under consideration, to enhance information and communications technology and transport cross-sectoral synergies,

Recalling further its resolution 72/10 of 19 May 2016, in which the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to hold a regional review of the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society action lines as part of the session of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation on its first session,²⁹

Acknowledging with satisfaction the outcomes of the second meeting of the Working Group on the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway, which was held in Guangzhou, China, in August 2016, and expressing its appreciation to the members of the Working Group and to the secretariat,

1. *Invites* members and associate members to cooperate in the implementation of the Master Plan for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway³⁰

²⁵ *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.*

²⁶ General Assembly resolution 69/137, annex II.

²⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2323, No. 41607.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, vol. 2596, No. 46171.

²⁹ E/ESCAP/73/10.

³⁰ E/ESCAP/CICTSTI(1)/2.

and the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Regional Cooperation Framework Document³¹ as endorsed by the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation at its first session;

2. *Also invites* members and associate members to promote broad-based partnerships, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation and highlighting the importance of such partnerships, for the implementation of the Master Plan for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway and the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Regional Cooperation Framework Document;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Accord priority to the implementation of the Master Plan for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway and the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Regional Cooperation Framework Document, including the support to members and associate members for their implementation;

(b) Encourage the participation of various stakeholders, such as United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, regional and subregional organizations, international financial institutions and partners, as well as the private sector, civil society, research institutes and think tanks, as appropriate, in the implementation of activities of the Master Plan;

(c) Continue to conduct research and analysis and capacity development to identify challenges and opportunities associated with the four pillars of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative and the implementation of the strategic initiatives included in the Master Plan, including support for formulating regional, subregional and national action plans, based on paragraph 39 of the Master Plan, for the achievement of sustainable development;

(d) Maximize opportunities created by the subregional offices and regional institutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in order to advance the implementation of activities, consultations and cooperation for the Asia-Pacific information superhighway, while deepening cross-sectoral synergies;

(e) Report to the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation at its second session on the progress made in the implementation of the strategic initiatives articulated in the Master Plan;

(f) Report to the Commission at its seventy-fifth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*6th plenary meeting
19 May 2017*

Resolution 73/7

Enhancing regional cooperation for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015, by which the Assembly endorsed the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, adopted by the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it recognized the importance of promoting resilience and disaster risk reduction for sustainable development,

³¹ E/ESCAP/CICTSTI(1)/3.

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 71/276 of 2 February 2017, and welcoming the report of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction,³²

Recalling General Assembly resolution 71/226 of 21 December 2016, in which it noted, inter alia, the convening of the International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, held in Bangkok on 10 and 11 March 2016, which adopted the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030³³ as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

Recalling again General Assembly resolution 71/226 of 21 December 2016, in which the Assembly reiterated its strong encouragement of, and the need for, effective coordination and coherence, as applicable, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,³⁴ the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework, while respecting the relevant mandates,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 70/203 of 22 December 2015 on World Tsunami Awareness Day,

Recalling further resolution 71/12 of 29 May 2015 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on strengthening regional mechanisms for the implementation of the Sendai Framework in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 72/11 of 19 May 2016 on advancing disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific for implementation of internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling also its resolution 71/11 of 29 May 2015 on the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management, and recognizing the Centre's contribution to the attainment of the goals and targets of the Sendai Framework,

Stressing the need to enhance coordination among the entities of the United Nations system, including the funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and other international and regional organizations, as appropriate, to support member States in the implementation of the Sendai Framework,

Stressing, in this regard, the importance of effective coordination and coherence within the conference structure of the Commission, including the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management,

Taking note of the outcome documents of the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in New Delhi from 2 to 5 November 2016, namely the New Delhi declaration on disaster risk reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2016 and the Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,³⁵ consolidating the political commitment of Governments on preventing and reducing risk as well as strengthening resilience by accelerating the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework in the region, as well as related events, including the Asia-Pacific Space Leaders Forum hosted by the Indian Space Research Organization and the Commission,

Recognizing the significance of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction Asia Partnership meeting, held in Ulaanbaatar from 5 to 7 April 2017,

³² A/71/644.

³³ www.who.int/hac/events/2016/Bangkok_Principles.pdf.

³⁴ General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

³⁵ See www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/46721.

which facilitated the exchange of updates on the implementation of the Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework and the progress on country disaster risk management status reviews for the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework,

Noting that the third Asia-Pacific Water Summit is to be held in Yangon, Myanmar, in December 2017, at which participants will discuss various water-related issues, including water-related disasters and relevant recommendations for action,

1. *Invites* members and associate members, in coordination with relevant international organizations, the private sector and civil society, where appropriate, to enhance the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030³⁶ and relevant initiatives, including the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,³³ with a view to ensuring more systematic cooperation, coherence and integration between disaster and health risk management;

2. *Encourages* members and associate members, the United Nations and other international organizations and agencies, as well as all other stakeholders in the relevant fields, as appropriate, to provide support to the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management and to cooperate for the achievement of its objectives and the implementation of its work programme;

3. *Invites* member States to participate in the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Ulaanbaatar from 16 to 19 July 2018, at the highest level;

4. *Invites* members and associate members, in coordination with relevant international organizations, the private sector and civil society, as appropriate, to consider contributing financial and other relevant support to, as well as to identify new partners for, its Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries in order to strengthen people-centred multi-hazard early warning systems in the region;

5. *Invites* all members and associate members, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe World Tsunami Awareness Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, in order to raise public awareness of the risk caused by tsunamis;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Accord priority to synchronizing multi-disciplinary support to member States in the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in their development strategies, in line with the Sendai Framework and with the Sustainable Development Goals and targets relating to disaster risk reduction;

(b) Enhance inter-agency coordination with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and other United Nations bodies, as well as other relevant regional and international organizations, including as outlined in the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific;³⁷

(c) Reach out to new potential donors, where appropriate, and explore innovative resource mobilization opportunities to strengthen the Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries;

(d) Continue to support the work of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific on strengthening linkages with the work of other

³⁶ General Assembly resolution 69/283, annex II.

³⁷ E/ESCAP/73/31, annex II.

international organizations and to ensure that the outcomes of its work are practical and consistent with the requirements of the agreed global frameworks;

(e) Continue to support the work of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific on a disaster-related statistics framework and its implementation guidelines for the enhancement of the capacity of national statistical systems in the region to produce and use disaster-related statistics, including to improve national baselines with the required disaggregation for the relevant goals and targets of the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda;³⁸

(f) Continue to support and facilitate multi-hazard early warning systems, impact-based forecasting and disaster risk assessment to strengthen regional cooperation mechanisms;

(g) Continue to accord priority to the implementation of the plan of action³⁹ in promoting regional cooperation on space applications for the implementation of the Sendai Framework;

7. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*6th plenary meeting
19 May 2017*

Resolution 73/8

Strengthening regional cooperation for sustainable energy development in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 67/215 of 21 December 2012 and 69/225 of 19 December 2014 on promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, in which the Assembly decided to declare 2014-2024 the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All, as well as resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which the Assembly adopted Sustainable Development Goal 7 and corresponding targets, and acknowledged the significance of sustainable, reliable, affordable and modern energy in socioeconomic development,

Recalling also resolution 63/6 of 23 May 2007 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the implementation of intercountry energy cooperation to enhance energy security for sustainable development with a view to widening access to energy services in least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, resolution 64/3 of 30 April 2008 on promoting renewables for energy security and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, resolution 67/2 of 25 May 2011 on promoting regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy in Asia and the Pacific, and resolution 68/11 of 23 May 2012 on connectivity for energy security,

Recognizing that energy is a key driver for sustainable development, and that the lack of universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services poses serious development challenges to all countries in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly to the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States,

Recognizing also that energy demand in the Asia-Pacific region is rising more rapidly than in other regions and that fossil fuels remain the main source of energy, and the need to diversify energy sources according to national circumstances,

³⁸ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

³⁹ Resolution 69/11, annex.

Noting that Sustainable Development Goal 7 contains, inter alia, three targets to be achieved by 2030: 7.1, to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services; 7.2, to increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix; and 7.3, to double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency,

Acknowledging the importance of the transition to the use of renewable energy sources and the deployment of environmentally friendly energy technologies in order to mitigate adverse environmental footprints of the energy transfer and trade,

Acknowledging also the role of the regional energy trade and energy projects in strengthening economic cooperation and eradicating energy poverty in the region and exploiting the strong nexus between energy and other development factors for long-term energy sustainability in the region,

Emphasizing the importance of all elements of energy security, including, inter alia, the diversification of energy sources, security of supply, energy routes and regional energy connectivity,

Acknowledging the ongoing efforts on climate action related to energy at the global level, as well as across the Asian and Pacific region, including those in line with the Paris Agreement adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its twenty-first session,

Noting with satisfaction various national actions from across the Asia-Pacific region in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 7 targets, and recognizing the potential for regional energy cooperation to enhance and reinforce these actions at the national, subregional and regional levels,

Acknowledging the efforts made by member countries to expand regional and subregional energy infrastructure through the implementation of connectivity projects that lead to increased access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy in the region,

Recalling its resolution 70/9 of 8 August 2014 on the implementation of the outcomes of the first Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, in which the Commission decided to convene the second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum at the ministerial level in 2018,

Noting the progress made by members and associate members in implementing the outcomes of the first Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, namely, the Ministerial Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Enhanced Energy Security and the Sustainable Use of Energy in Asia and the Pacific: Shaping the Future of Sustainable Energy in Asia and the Pacific and the Plan of Action on Regional Cooperation for Enhanced Energy Security and the Sustainable Use of Energy in Asia and the Pacific, 2014-2018,

Emphasizing the need to make all efforts in removing barriers to invest in the energy sectors of member countries by stakeholders with financial and technical capabilities with a view to contributing to the achievement of energy security and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in the region,

Reaffirming the role of the Committee on Energy, established by the Commission in its resolution 71/1 of 29 May 2015, as an intergovernmental forum for discussing emerging trends and development issues relevant to supporting access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all in Asia and the Pacific, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and identifying modalities for regional energy cooperation,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Energy on its first session,⁴⁰

Having also considered the draft terms of reference of the expert/working groups of the Committee on Energy prepared by the secretariat,

Having reviewed the theme study prepared for the seventy-third session of the Commission, entitled “Enhancing regional cooperation for sustainable energy in Asia and the Pacific”,⁴¹

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on Energy on its first session;⁴⁰
2. *Encourages* all members and associate members to develop and strengthen national, bilateral and multilateral programmes and projects aiming to strengthen regional energy cooperation and energy security as a driver to facilitate economic growth, social equality and prosperity, and environmental sustainability and support energy projects which contribute to energy security in all its aspects in the region;
3. *Also encourages* members and associate members to actively share experiences on their energy sector transition to renewable energy, energy efficiency, and advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies, which contribute to the mitigation of climate change and the creation of financial incentives in this area;
4. *Further encourages* members and associate members to formulate and implement innovative energy policies that are economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound;
5. *Calls upon* all members and associate members to further promote regional energy connectivity and to formulate and implement coherent policies to increase the cost-effectiveness of joint energy infrastructure projects;
6. *Decides* to adjust its conference structure with regards to the specific issues to be addressed by the Committee on Energy, as contained in the annex to resolution 71/1 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and revised in the annex to the present resolution, for alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;⁴²
7. *Encourages* all members and associate members to participate in the international specialized exhibition EXPO-2017 “Future Energy”, which will be hosted by the Government of Kazakhstan in Astana from June to September 2017, and the Energy Ministerial Conference and the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, which will be held from 11 to 14 June 2017;
8. *Decides* to fully prepare for the second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, while ensuring that the preparatory process will take into account the progress made in implementing the Ministerial Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Enhanced Energy Security and the Sustainable Use of Energy in Asia and the Pacific: Shaping the Future of Sustainable Energy in Asia and the Pacific and the Plan of Action on Regional Cooperation for Enhanced Energy Security and the Sustainable Use of Energy in Asia and the Pacific, 2014-2018, and to consider the theme study issued by the Commission at its seventy-third session as well as inputs from all stakeholders from across the region, including Governments, international bodies, the private sector and civil society, as appropriate;

⁴⁰ E/ESCAP/73/30.

⁴¹ E/ESCAP/73/7.

⁴² General Assembly resolution 70/1.

9. *Also decides* to create two expert working groups on energy connectivity and on universal access to modern energy services, renewable energy, energy efficiency and cleaner use of fossil fuels;

10. *Stresses* that the above-mentioned expert working groups take advantage of and build upon the existing knowledge, information and policy research and closely coordinate with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to avoid, to the extent possible, duplication of work while making further studies, and that the concrete focus areas should be further discussed during 2017 among members and associate members;

11. *Emphasizes* that the Executive Secretary utilize the outputs of the expert working groups in preparing reports for the intergovernmental discussions at the Committee on Energy and the second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, as appropriate;

12. *Invites* the officers of the Committee on Energy, namely, the Chair, five Vice-Chairs and Rapporteur, to play an active role intersessionally in advising the secretariat in implementing the decisions of the Committee;

13. *Invites* members and associate members, relevant United Nations bodies, international organizations and financial institutions, as well as the private sector and civil society, to actively contribute towards the preparation of the second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum;

14. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Continue to assist members and associate members in building their capacity, including through policy dialogue and by taking advantage of the Commission's conference structure to identify paths towards energy transition and sustainable development;

(b) Continue to conduct analytical studies and compile and disseminate relevant energy information and data, utilizing a combination of existing funds and extrabudgetary contributions, with a view to identifying key trends and emerging issues in the Asian and Pacific region, and taking advantage of ongoing work of other relevant international organizations and bearing in mind the need to minimize duplication of work;

(c) Contribute to develop an inclusive and comprehensive set of recommendations for the agenda of the second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum;

(d) Support the work of the expert working groups mentioned in paragraph 9 of the present resolution;

(e) Convene a preparatory meeting for the second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum;

(f) Report to the Commission at its seventy-fifth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*6th plenary meeting
19 May 2017*

Resolution 73/9

Regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level, in which the importance of the regional and subregional dimension of follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda was acknowledged,

Recalling also resolution 72/6 of 19 May 2016 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on committing to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific, in which it encouraged all members and associate members to continue to work on the development of a regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda and requested the Executive Secretary to support the process,

Having considered the report of the Fourth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development and its annexes,⁴³

1. *Endorses* the report of the Fourth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development and the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific as contained in annex II;⁴³

2. *Calls upon* member States to cooperate in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as provided for by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1, and, at the regional level, in light of the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific;

3. *Invites* development partners, in particular the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to collaborate with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in promoting sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region through all appropriate mechanisms and within their mandates, including enhanced cooperation in support of the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific;

4. *Reiterates its request* to the Executive Secretary to support member States in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda in an integrated manner and in light of the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, as convener of the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism, to strengthen and promote communication, cooperation and collaboration among the relevant organizations of the United Nations system in the Asia-Pacific region and other stakeholders, as appropriate, in support of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals by member States, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and Pacific island developing countries;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventy-fifth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*6th plenary meeting
19 May 2017*

B. Decisions adopted by the Commission at its seventy-third session

Decision 73/1

Regional implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on the regional implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (E/ESCAP/73/1).

⁴³ E/ESCAP/73/31.

Decision 73/2

Report on the Regional Capacity-building Workshop on Sustainable Development Goals Modelling for the Least Developed Countries in Asia and the Pacific

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report on the Regional Capacity-building Workshop on Sustainable Development Goals Modelling for the Least Developed Countries in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/73/2).

Decision 73/3

Report on progress made on the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals in the Pacific

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report on progress made on the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals in the Pacific (E/ESCAP/73/4).

Decision 73/4

Summary of the Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report 2017

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on the summary of the Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report 2017 (E/ESCAP/73/5).

Decision 73/5

Summary of progress in the implementation of Commission resolutions

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on the summary of progress in the implementation of Commission resolutions (E/ESCAP/73/6).

Decision 73/6

Interim programme performance report for the biennium 2016-2017

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the interim programme performance report for the biennium 2016-2017 (E/ESCAP/73/INF/7).

Decision 73/7

Report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture on its thirteenth session

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture on its thirteenth session (E/ESCAP/73/8).

Decision 73/8

Report on the Regional Workshop on the Adaptation of the 2030 Agenda and the Istanbul Programme of Action at the National Level for the Least Developed Countries in Asia and the Pacific

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report on the Regional Workshop on the Adaptation of the 2030 Agenda and the Istanbul Programme of Action at the National Level for the Least Developed Countries in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/73/9).

Decision 73/9

Report of the 3rd meeting of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report of the 3rd meeting of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation (E/ESCAP/73/11).

Decision 73/10

Report on trade, investment, science, technology and innovation as means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report on trade, investment, science, technology and innovation as means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (E/ESCAP/73/12).

Decision 73/11

Report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology on its twelfth session

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology on its twelfth session (E/ESCAP/73/13).

Decision 73/12

Report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization on its twelfth session

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization on its twelfth session (E/ESCAP/73/14).

Decision 73/13

Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2017

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report of the Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2017 (E/ESCAP/73/INF/8).

Decision 73/14

Report of the Ministerial Conference on Transport on its third session

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the report of the Ministerial Conference on Transport on its third session (E/ESCAP/73/15).

Decision 73/15

Global attention to sustainable transport development

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the information document on global attention to sustainable transport development (E/ESCAP/73/INF/6).

Decision 73/16

Urbanization and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific: linkages and policy implications

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat entitled "Urbanization and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific: linkages and policy implications" (E/ESCAP/73/16).

Decision 73/17

Starting implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific region: a focus on integration and environment and development issues

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat entitled “Starting implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific region: a focus on integration and environment and development issues” (E/ESCAP/73/17).

Decision 73/18

Report of the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and South-East Asia (CCOP)

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report of the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and South-East Asia (CCOP) (E/ESCAP/73/INF/1/Rev.1).

Decision 73/19

Report of the Mekong River Commission

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report of the Mekong River Commission (E/ESCAP/73/INF/2).

Decision 73/20

Report of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation on its first session

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation on its first session (E/ESCAP/73/10).

Decision 73/21

Report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development on its eleventh session

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development on its eleventh session (E/ESCAP/73/18).

Decision 73/22

Report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management on its first session

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management on its first session (E/ESCAP/73/19).

Decision 73/23

Space applications for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on space applications for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (E/ESCAP/73/20).

Decision 73/24

Report on regional cooperation mechanisms for multi-hazard risk assessment and early warning

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report on regional cooperation mechanisms for multi-hazard risk assessment and early warning (E/ESCAP/73/21).

Decision 73/25

Report of the Typhoon Committee

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report of the Typhoon Committee (E/ESCAP/73/INF/3/Rev.1).

Decision 73/26

Report of the Panel on Tropical Cyclones

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report of the Panel on Tropical Cyclones (E/ESCAP/73/INF/4).

Decision 73/27

Preparations for the third regional review of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in Asia and the Pacific

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on preparations for the third regional review of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/73/22).

Decision 73/28

Preparations for the high-level intergovernmental meeting on the midpoint review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on the preparations for the high-level intergovernmental meeting on the midpoint review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022 (E/ESCAP/73/23).

Decision 73/29

Report of the Committee on Statistics on its fifth session

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Statistics on its fifth session (E/ESCAP/73/24).

Decision 73/30

Report on the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific on its 2nd meeting

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report on the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific on its 2nd meeting (E/ESCAP/73/25).

Decision 73/31

Report of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on its twelfth session

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on its twelfth session (E/ESCAP/73/26).

Decision 73/32

Report of the Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia on its eleventh session

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia on its eleventh session (E/ESCAP/73/27).

Decision 73/33

Subregional perspectives on sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on subregional perspectives on sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/73/28).

Decision 73/34

Status of the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 7 in Asia and the Pacific

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on the status of the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 7 in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/73/INF/5).

Decision 73/35

Note verbale dated 10 May 2017 from the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Thailand addressed to the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note verbale dated 10 May 2017 from the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Thailand addressed to the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/73/32).

Decision 73/36

Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019 (E/ESCAP/73/33).

Decision 73/37

Programme changes for the biennium 2016-2017

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission endorsed the proposed programme changes for the biennium 2016-2017 (E/ESCAP/73/34).

Decision 73/38

Overview of partnerships, extrabudgetary contributions and capacity development

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the overview of partnerships, extrabudgetary contributions and capacity development (E/ESCAP/73/35) and expressed its appreciation for the following contributions pledged by members and associate members for 2017:

1. *Bangladesh*. The secretariat had received written notification that the Government of Bangladesh would make the following contributions:

APCICT	\$10 000
APCTT	\$7 000
SIAP	\$5 000

2. *Brunei Darussalam.* The secretariat had received written notification that the Government of Brunei Darussalam would make the following contributions:

Pacific Trust Fund	\$1 000
SIAP	\$15 000

3. *China.* The delegation of China noted that its Government had made the following contributions:

China-ESCAP Cooperation Programme	\$1 000 000 and RMB 1 500 000
CSAM	\$1 680 000
APCTT	\$30 000
SIAP	\$70 000
Asia-Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons	\$10 000
NEASPEC	\$50 000

4. *India.* The delegation of India announced that its Government would make the following contributions:

APCICT	\$20 000
APCTT	\$200 000
SIAP	\$25 000
ESCAP Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia	\$79 000

In addition, the delegation of India announced that its Government intended to make contributions in-kind equivalent to \$265,700 to APCTT and equivalent to \$265,700 to the Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia. The delegation also informed the Commission that its Government was considering making a contribution to CSAM and the amount would be provided in due course.

5. *Indonesia.* The delegation of Indonesia announced that its Government would make the following contributions:

APCTT	\$10 000
CAPSA	Rp 767 000 000
CSAM	\$30 000
SIAP	\$30 000

In addition, the delegation of Indonesia informed the Commission that its Government would make contributions in-kind to CAPSA of Rp 1,000,000,000 for the institution's operational costs and programme activities.

The delegation also informed the Commission that its Government intended to make an in-kind contribution to APCICT equivalent to Rp 7,000,000,000 for rolling out academy and training workshops in Indonesia and for providing scholarships for Indonesian government officials and younger generations.

6. *Iran (Islamic Republic of).* The secretariat had received written notification that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran would make the following contributions:

ESCAP programme of work	\$35 000
SIAP	\$15 000

The Islamic Republic of Iran would contribute an amount of \$3.1 million towards the establishment and operational costs of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM) for 2016-2017.

7. *Japan.* The delegation of Japan announced that its Government would make the following contribution for the period April 2017 to March 2018:

SIAP	\$1 793 400
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The cash contribution to SIAP includes \$70,700 for conducting new training courses in Japan.

In addition, the delegation of Japan announced that its Government intended to make a contribution in-kind equivalent to \$1,017,991 to SIAP for the period from April 2017 to March 2018.

Furthermore, as part of its technical cooperation programme through the Japan International Cooperation Agency, in cooperation with SIAP, the delegation announced its Government's intention to provide fellowships for 40 participants, including their participation in a four-month training course.

8. *Macao, China.* The secretariat had received written notification that the Government of Macao, China, would make the following contributions:

APCICT	\$5 000
APCTT	\$5 000
APDIM	\$10 000
CAPSA	\$3 000
SIAP	\$20 000

9. *Malaysia.* The secretariat had received written notification that the Government of Malaysia would make the following contributions:

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

10. *Sri Lanka.* The delegation of Sri Lanka announced that its Government would make the following contribution:

APCICT	\$10 000
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11. *Thailand.* The delegation of Thailand announced that its Government would make contributions as follows:

APCTT	\$15 000
CAPSA	\$10 000
CSAM	\$15 000
SIAP	\$23 000
Pacific Trust Fund	\$1 000
Typhoon Committee	\$12 000
Tropical Cyclones Trust Fund	\$3 000

Decision 73/39

Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/73/37).

Decision 73/40

Dates, venue and theme topic for the seventy-fourth session of the Commission (2018)

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission decided that its seventy-fourth session would be held in April or May 2018; the actual dates would be determined in consultation with the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission. The Commission also decided that the theme topic for its seventy-fourth session would be "Inequality in the era of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (E/ESCAP/73/38).

Decision 73/41

Enhancing regional economic cooperation and integration in Asia and the Pacific

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on enhancing regional economic cooperation and integration in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/73/39).

Decision 73/42

Note verbale dated 28 April 2017 from the Office of H.E. Mr. Min Bahadur Shrestha, Vice-Chairman, National Planning Commission of Nepal addressed to the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note verbale dated 28 April 2017 from the Office of H.E. Mr. Min Bahadur Shrestha, Vice-Chairman, National Planning Commission of Nepal addressed to the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/73/INF/9).

Decision 73/43

Summary of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2017

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 May 2017, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on the summary of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2017 (E/ESCAP/73/29).

Chapter II

Organization of the seventy-third session of the Commission

A. Attendance and organization of work

3. The seventy-third session was held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 15 to 19 May 2017.

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

Members

Afghanistan
Armenia
Australia
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
China
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Fiji
France
Georgia
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Japan
Kazakhstan
Kiribati
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Malaysia
Marshall Islands
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nauru
Nepal
Pakistan
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Samoa
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Tajikistan
Thailand
Tonga
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Tuvalu
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uzbekistan
Vanuatu
Viet Nam

Associate members

Hong Kong, China
Macao, China

5. By virtue of rule 3 of the Commission's rules of procedure, representatives of Belgium, Canada, Czechia, Germany, Portugal and Switzerland attended. Representatives of the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies also attended.
6. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian Productivity Organization; Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and South-East Asia; Economic Cooperation Organization; ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee; International Organization for Migration; Mekong River Commission; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia; Shanghai Cooperation Organization; and WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones.
7. A representative of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States of the United Nations Secretariat attended.
8. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; and United Nations Development Programme.
9. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present in a consultative capacity: International Civil Aviation Organization; International Maritime Organization; International Telecommunication Union; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; and Universal Postal Union.
10. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations: Associated Country Women of the World; Baha'i International Community; Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations; German Agency for International Cooperation; International Federation of Business and Professional Women; LDC Watch; National Council of Women of Thailand; Organization of the Families of Asia and the Pacific; Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association of Thailand; and World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises.
11. The list of participants is available from www.unescap.org/commission/73/listOfParticipants.
12. In accordance with rule 13 of its rules of procedure, the Commission elected Mr. Enele Sosene Sopoaga (Tuvalu) as Chair of the seventy-third session.
13. Following its past practice, the Commission decided to elect as Vice-Chairs the heads of delegations participating at the ministerial level:

Mr. Abdul Sattar Murad (Afghanistan)
Mr. Gulmammad Javadov (Azerbaijan)
Mr. Muhammad Abdul Mannan (Bangladesh)
Mr. Ly Thuch (Cambodia)
Mr. Qian Hongshan (China)
Mr. Jone Usamate (Fiji)
Mr. Semi Tuleca Koroilavesau (Fiji)
Mr. Gellwyn Daniel Hamzah Jusuf (Indonesia)
Mr. Teuea Toatu (Kiribati)
Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith (Lao People's Democratic Republic)
Mr. John M. Silk (Marshall Islands)
Mr. Tsend Munkh-Orgil (Mongolia)
Mr. Min Bahadur Shrestha (Nepal)

Ms. Adoracion M. Navarro (Philippines)
Mr. Vasily Nebenzya (Russian Federation)
Mr. Tialavea Tionisio Hunt (Samoa)
Mr. Ajith P. Perera (Sri Lanka)
Ms. Gulru Jabborzoda (Tajikistan)
General Tanasak Patimapragorn (Thailand)
Mr. Samuela 'Akilisi Pohiva (Tonga)
Mr. Batyr Bazarov (Turkmenistan)
Mr. Joe Natuman (Vanuatu)
Mr. Pham Sanh Chau (Viet Nam)

14. 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. Peseta Noumea Simi (Samoa)

Vice-Chairs: Mr. Mostainbillah Balagh (Afghanistan)
Mr. Meas Bora (Cambodia)

(b) Committee of the Whole II

Chair: Ms. Doma Tshering (Bhutan)

Vice-Chairs: Mr. Emin Mammadov (Azerbaijan)
Mr. Khamso Kouphokham
(Lao People's Democratic Republic)

15. The Commission also constituted the Working Group on Draft Resolutions to consider the draft resolutions submitted during the session. Mr. Khaga Nath Adhikari (Nepal) was elected Chair and Mr. Pita Tagicakirewa (Fiji) was elected Vice-Chair of the Working Group.

B. Agenda

16. 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 Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries:

- (a) Development issues relevant to least developed countries;
- (b) Development issues relevant to landlocked developing countries;
- (c) Development issues relevant to Pacific island developing countries;
- (d) Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report 2017.

3. Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission, including the work of the regional institutions:
 - (a) Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development;
 - (b) Trade and investment;
 - (c) Transport;
 - (d) Environment and development;
 - (e) Information and communications technology, science, technology and innovation;
 - (f) Disaster risk reduction;
 - (g) Social development;
 - (h) Statistics;
 - (i) Subregional activities for development;
 - (j) Energy.
4. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific:
 - (a) Fourth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development;
 - (b) Financing for development.
5. Management issues:
 - (a) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019;
 - (b) Programme changes for the biennium 2016-2017;
 - (c) Overview of partnerships, extrabudgetary contributions and capacity development.
6. Review of the implementation of Commission resolution 71/1.
7. Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission.
8. Dates, venue and theme topic for the seventy-fourth session of the Commission (2018).

Ministerial segment

9. Policy issues for the Asia-Pacific region:
 - (a) Inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific through regional economic cooperation and integration;
 - (b) Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2017.
10. Theme topic for the seventy-third session of the Commission: "Regional cooperation for sustainable energy".
11. Other matters.
12. Adoption of the report of the Commission.

C. Opening of the session

Senior officials segment

17. The senior officials segment was opened by the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on 15 May 2017. The Executive Secretary delivered a welcome statement.

Ministerial segment

18. Mr. Enele Sosene Sopoaga (Tuvalu) presided over the opening session of the ministerial segment of the seventy-third session, on 17 May 2017. A video message from the Secretary-General was played. The Executive Secretary delivered her welcome remarks and policy statement. A video to pay tribute to the life and work of His Majesty the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand was played. General Tanasak Patimapragorn, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, delivered the inaugural address on behalf of the Government of Thailand. Mr. Tommy Esang Remengesau, Jr., President of Palau, and Ms. Helen Clark, former Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, delivered keynote speeches. Ms. Dessima Williams, Special Adviser on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, delivered remarks on behalf of the President of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly.

D. Adoption of the report of the Commission

19. The report of the Commission was adopted at its 6th plenary meeting on 19 May 2017.

Chapter III

Work of the Commission since the seventy-second session

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

20. During the period under review, the following intergovernmental meetings and meetings of subsidiary bodies were held:

- (a) Committees:
 - (i) Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation (first session);
 - (ii) Committee on Statistics (fifth session);
 - (iii) Committee on Energy (first session);
- (b) Governing councils:
 - (i) Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (eleventh session);
 - (ii) Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (first session);
 - (iii) Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (twelfth session);
 - (iv) Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (twelfth session);
 - (v) Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (thirteenth session);
 - (vi) Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (twelfth session);
- (c) Other intergovernmental meetings:
 - (i) Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (eleventh session);
 - (ii) Ministerial Conference on Transport (third session);
 - (iii) Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (fourth session);

21. The dates, bureaux and document symbols of the reports of the meetings are given in annex III. The reports reflect the discussions held, the agreements reached and the decisions taken.

B. Publications

22. The list of publications issued since the seventy-second session of the Commission and pre-session documents submitted to it at its present session are listed in annex IV.

C. Relations with other United Nations bodies

23. The secretariat maintained close and regular contacts with various divisions at Headquarters and with the secretariats of the other regional commissions on projects of common interest.

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 programme budget implications for the approved programme budget for the period 2016-2017¹ and the proposed programme of work for the period 2018-2019:

(a) Resolution 73/1: A conference structure of the Commission aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(b) Resolution 73/2: Strengthening the regional mechanism for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024;

(c) Resolution 73/3: Advancing integrated and seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific;

(d) Resolution 73/4: Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific;

(e) Resolution 73/5: Strengthening Asia-Pacific's support for the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14;

(f) Resolution 73/6: Implementation of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative through regional cooperation;

(g) Resolution 73/7: Enhancing regional cooperation for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Asia and the Pacific;

(h) Resolution 73/8: Strengthening regional cooperation for sustainable energy development in Asia and the Pacific;

(i) Resolution 73/9: Regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.

2. As appropriate, extrabudgetary resources will be sought for the implementation of the activities required under the above-mentioned draft resolutions.

3. With respect to resolution 73/3, one output will be added to the proposed programme of work for the period 2018-2019.

¹ See General Assembly resolution 70/249 A-C.

Annex II

Conference structure of the Commission

I. The Commission

1. The Commission shall meet annually under an overarching theme selected by member States, with each session comprising a senior officials segment followed by a ministerial segment, for a total of five working days, and the duration of each segment shall be decided by the secretariat in consultation with member States, to discuss and decide on important issues pertaining to inclusive and sustainable development in the region, decide on the recommendations of its subsidiary bodies and of the Executive Secretary, review and endorse the proposed strategic framework and programme of work and take any other decisions required in conformity with its terms of reference.
2. The Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries shall be held for a maximum of one day during the senior officials segment, holding a status commensurate with the Committees of the Whole.
3. The Commission session may include a distinguished person's lecture and high-level representatives of United Nations agencies may be invited to participate in panel discussions held during the session, and corporate leaders and civil society organizations may be invited to participate in the session as appropriate, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission.
4. The Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission, which convenes prior to the Commission session, shall be reconstituted as the Working Group on Draft Resolutions during the senior officials segment and shall have a status commensurate with the Committees of the Whole.
5. The number of simultaneous meetings of the Committees of the Whole, including their commensurate bodies, held during the senior officials segment of the annual session of the Commission shall not exceed two.
6. Draft resolutions shall reflect the substantive deliberations of member States; furthermore, without prejudice to rule 31 of its rules of procedure, members of the Commission intending to submit draft resolutions to the Commission are strongly encouraged to submit them to the Executive Secretary at least one month prior to the commencement of the session of the Commission in order to allow sufficient time for review by members and associate members of the Commission, and the Commission shall not consider draft resolutions submitted within one week of the first day of the Commission session.
7. The report of the Commission will be composed of the decisions and resolutions of the Commission. The draft record of proceedings of the Commission, prepared by the secretariat, will be circulated among members and associate members for comment within 15 days after the conclusion of the session. Members and associate members will be requested to provide comments within 15 days of receiving the draft record of proceedings. The secretariat's final record of proceedings of the Commission session will be issued within two months of the conclusion of the session, taking into account the relevant comments of members and associate members.
8. The Commission shall serve as the regional platform for integrating the sectoral streams of the Committees, with a view towards promoting sustainable development equitably through all of its three dimensions.

II. Subsidiary structure

9. The subsidiary structure of the Commission shall consist of the following nine committees:

- (a) Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development;
- (b) Committee on Trade and Investment;
- (c) Committee on Transport;
- (d) Committee on Environment and Development;
- (e) Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation;
- (f) Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction;
- (g) Committee on Social Development;
- (h) Committee on Statistics;
- (i) Committee on Energy.

10. The nine committees shall each meet biennially for a maximum duration of three days for each session, with joint plenary sessions between multiple committees to discuss cross-cutting issues, when possible and desirable.

11. The Commission may mandate a specific committee or multiple committees to meet in the gap year where a particular topic becomes an urgent issue for the region.

12. Within their respective areas of purview, the committees shall:

- (a) Review and analyse regional trends;
- (b) Identify, in consultation with member States, their priorities and emerging issues, and consult on regional approaches, taking into consideration subregional aspects;
- (c) Promote regional dialogue, including subregional synergies, and an exchange of experiences on policies and programmes;
- (d) Consider common regional positions as inputs to global processes and promote regional follow-up to their outcomes;
- (e) Propose issues for consideration by the Commission as the basis for possible resolutions;
- (f) Monitor the implementation of Commission resolutions;
- (g) Promote a collaborative approach to addressing the development challenges of the region, where appropriate, between Governments and civil society, the private sector, as well as the United Nations and other international organizations at the regional and subregional levels.

13. Further, within their respective areas of purview, the committees shall provide the secretariat, including its regional institutions, with guidance in reviewing the proposed strategic framework and programme of work.

14. The following areas shall be mainstreamed into the work of all committees:

- (a) Implementation and monitoring the achievement of the relevant internationally agreed development goals;
- (b) Poverty reduction and balanced integration of the three pillars of sustainable development;
- (c) Gender equality;

- (d) The priority needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

15. Representatives of civil society and the private sector may, upon consultation with member States, be invited to join the Committee sessions as appropriate, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission.

16. The specific issues to be addressed by each of the nine committees in carrying out the above functions are listed in appendix I to the present document.

17. The subsidiary structure of the Commission shall also include the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development. The terms of reference of the Forum are listed in appendix II to the present document.

III. Ad hoc ministerial conferences and other intergovernmental meetings

18. Subject to the approval of the Commission, ad hoc ministerial conferences and other intergovernmental meetings may be organized on specific and cross-sectoral issues.

19. No more than eight ad hoc ministerial conferences and other intergovernmental meetings shall be held in addition to the regular calendar of intergovernmental meetings during each biennium, and the total number of days shall not exceed 16, unless the Commission decides otherwise.

20. In those years when a ministerial conference or intergovernmental meeting is held covering issues normally discussed in a committee, the corresponding committee need not be convened. Subject to the approval of the Commission, a committee may be convened at the ministerial level on an ad hoc basis to ensure high-level engagement on the issues to be addressed.

IV. Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

21. The functions of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission shall be in accordance with the terms of reference contained in appendix III to the present document.

22. The Advisory Committee may, if necessary, establish its own working groups on consideration of specific issues.

23. The Advisory Committee shall meet with sufficient frequency both in formal and informal meetings on topical subjects, especially prior to the Commission session. The number of formal meetings of the Advisory Committee per calendar year shall not be less than six or more than twelve. Any additional meetings, formal or informal, will be held in consultation with the Advisory Committee and the Executive Secretary, and may not require documentation by the secretariat, unless otherwise requested by the Advisory Committee.

24. Should the need arise to seek the views of United Nations entities or other intergovernmental organizations on subjects of interest to the Advisory Committee, members of the Advisory Committee can, if consensus has been reached, request the secretariat to invite representatives of particular United Nations entities or other intergovernmental organizations to attend a subsequent session of the Advisory Committee.

25. The Advisory Committee shall periodically review the work of subregional offices and regional institutions, and actively follow up and report on the implementation of resolutions by member States. The secretariat shall facilitate the reporting on resolutions by preparing the requisite guidelines and templates.

V. Regional institutions under the auspices of the Commission

26. The following institutions under the auspices of the Commission shall continue to function as prescribed in their respective statutes and terms of reference:

- (a) Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology;
- (b) Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture;
- (c) Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific;
- (d) Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization;
- (e) Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development;
- (f) Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management.

27. The Commission may constitute additional regional institutions that support the achievement of its strategic and programmatic objectives.

VI. General provisions

A. Rules of procedure

28. Unless otherwise specified by the Commission, the rules of procedure of the Commission, including those pertaining to the decision-making process, shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the committees and other meetings and conferences convened under its conference structure.

B. Informal session

29. An informal session among the heads of delegations during the ministerial segment of each Commission session may be organized but shall not be institutionalized. The agenda for the informal session shall be decided by consensus and the annotated agenda shall reach members at least thirty days before the opening of the session to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the session. Simultaneous interpretation shall be provided.

Appendix I

Issues to be addressed by committees subsidiary to the Commission

The issues listed below are the primary issues to be addressed by each committee. The Commission may adjust the list of issues for any committee at any time, as appropriate; the committees shall likewise retain the flexibility to address new or emerging issues brought to their attention by the secretariat, upon consultation with member States.

1. Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development:

- (a) Experiences and practices in formulating and implementing macroeconomic policies to reduce poverty and inequalities, as well as to achieve sustainable and inclusive development;
- (b) Regional economic development policies and options;
- (c) Financing for development, including enhancing domestic fiscal resources; increasing social impact investment by the private sector; and accessing regional financing vehicles, arrangements and funds;
- (d) Experiences and practices in developing regulations and institutions to deepen and strengthen the region's capital markets;

(e) Review of pro-poor economic growth policies, particularly in countries with special needs;

(f) Policy options and programmes for reducing rural poverty, including those with a gender dimension, through the development of sustainable agriculture.

2. Committee on Trade and Investment:

(a) Regional cooperative mechanisms and agreements in trade and investment, including the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement;

(b) Policy options on trade, investment, and small- and medium-sized enterprise development;

(c) Policy options and frameworks on trade facilitation.

3. Committee on Transport:

(a) Transport policy options and programmes, including the evolving post-2015 development agenda, and regional agreements and mandates;

(b) The Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway and other initiatives, including inter-island shipping and maritime transport promoted by the Commission for planning and financing integrated intermodal transport and logistics systems;

(c) Measures to improve road safety and the efficiency of transport operations and logistics;

(d) Support for the accession and implementation of international transport agreements;

(e) Harmonization of transport standards and documents;

(f) Applications of new transport technologies, including intelligent transport systems;

(g) Private sector participation for financing and maintaining infrastructure, including through public-private partnerships.

4. Committee on Environment and Development:

(a) Policies and strategies for enhancing environmental sustainability of economic and social development, including climate change mitigation and adaptation;

(b) Policies and strategies for sustainable management of natural resources including water;

(c) Policies and strategies for promoting inclusive and sustainable urban development.

5. Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation:

(a) Integration of information and communications technology-related issues in development policies, plans and programmes;

(b) Transfer and application of information and communications technology at the regional and subregional levels;

(c) Information and communications technology, including space applications, for disaster risk reduction;

(d) Development of human and institutional capacity in the use of information and communications technology and in the use of science and technology for innovation;

(e) Policy options and strategies for enhancing cooperation on the generation of and access to science, technology and innovation for sustainable development, including regional mechanisms for technology transfer;

(f) Mainstreaming of science, technology and innovation issues in development policies, strategies and plans.

6. Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction:

(a) Policy options and strategies on multi-hazard disaster risk reduction and mitigation;

(b) Regional cooperation mechanisms for disaster risk management, including space and other technical support systems;

(c) Multi-hazard assessment, preparedness, early warning and response to disaster risks.

7. Committee on Social Development:

(a) Review the regional implementation of the internationally agreed goals and commitments on social development;

(b) Assess population and development trends, including international migration and its impact on development;

(c) Address issues of inequality and promote the social inclusion of youth, persons with disabilities, older persons and other vulnerable social groups;

(d) Promote gender equality and women's empowerment;

(e) Strengthen social protection and health systems.

8. Committee on Statistics:

(a) Ensure that by 2020 all countries in the region have the capability to provide a basic range of population, economic, social and environmental statistics;

(b) Create a more adaptive and cost-effective information management environment for national statistical offices through stronger collaboration.

9. Committee on Energy:

(a) Policy options, strategies, policy dialogues and knowledge platforms to promote energy system transformation in Asia and the Pacific, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 7, including promoting energy connectivity, investments in energy infrastructure and cleaner energy technologies;

(b) Regional dialogues to promote access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all with a focus on energy connectivity, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies;

(c) The discussions and outcomes of the Asian and Pacific Energy Forum and other regional agreements and mandates promoted by the Commission for regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy.

Appendix II

Terms of reference of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

A. Overall functions

1. The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development is an annual, inclusive intergovernmental forum. It supports preparations for the high-level political forum on sustainable development in the context of both the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

2. The Forum will serve as a regional platform for:
 - (a) Supporting countries, in particular countries with special needs, including through enhancing their capacity for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - (b) Providing a regional perspective on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by identifying regional trends, and consolidating and sharing best practices and lessons learned, taking into account the contributions of other United Nations system bodies at the regional level, other regional and subregional organizations and relevant stakeholders;
 - (c) Supporting follow-up and review of progress on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals at the regional level through: assessing progress and providing opportunities for peer learning related to the theme and goals that will be reviewed at the high-level political forum; supporting the presentation of voluntary national reviews; and undertaking periodic review of progress of the road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.
3. These functions will benefit from inter-agency support including through the United Nations Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism.

B. Conduct of the Forum

4. As part of the conference structure of the Commission, the Forum will be convened annually as an inclusive intergovernmental forum ahead of the high-level political forum. The theme of the Forum should be consistent with that of the high-level political forum and the cluster of goals to be reviewed in-depth should be identical to the cluster of goals under the high-level political forum.
5. The Forum will not get ahead of, or pre-judge decisions of the high-level political forum, increase the reporting burden of member States or increase the regular budget of the Commission beyond what has already been approved by the General Assembly.
6. The current format, including the election of the bureau for each session, could be maintained and provide space for multi-stakeholder engagement for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in consultation, as appropriate, with member States.
7. The outcome of the Forum will be in the form of a report with a chair's summary annexed to the report.
8. The Forum may consider subregional perspectives on the themes addressed by the Forum. Preparatory meetings of stakeholders may be convened, within existing resources.
9. The Forum, including stakeholder engagement, will be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission as well as the modalities of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council as long as there is no conflict between them.
10. During each session, a member of the bureau of the previous session could report on the discussions at the intervening high-level political forum and on the conclusions of the previous session of the Forum.
11. The conduct of the Forum will avoid duplication with other regional forums and platforms; in the interest of efficiency, where appropriate, the Forum will be convened in coordination or collaboration with other forums and platforms.

C. Relationship of the Forum with the conference structure of the Commission

12. The report of the Forum as defined in paragraph 7 will be brought to the attention of the subsequent session of the Commission by the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Forum.
13. The Forum could receive inputs from the committees that are subsidiary to the Commission as well as other relevant stakeholders.
14. The Forum could benefit from advice provided by the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission as a modality for consulting member States between sessions of the Forum.
15. In the years when the high-level political forum meets under the auspices of the General Assembly at the summit level, which is every four years, the Forum may converge with the Commission session in April/May, and the Commission and the Forum will share the same theme, where appropriate. In other years when the high-level political forum meets under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, the Forum shall meet at the senior technical level.
16. If requested by member States, the terms of reference of the Forum may be revised upon recommendation of the Forum and endorsement by the Commission, taking into account new inputs from the high-level political forum and based on periodic review by member States.

Appendix III

Terms of reference of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

The Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission shall have the following functions:

- (a) To strengthen close cooperation and consultation between the member States and the secretariat, including by providing advice and guidance to be taken into account by the Executive Secretary while undertaking the respective activities;
- (b) To serve as a deliberative forum for substantive exchange of views and provide guidance on the formulation of the agenda of the Commission and in connection with economic and social developments that have an impact on the Asia-Pacific region;
- (c) To advise and guide the Executive Secretary in drawing up proposals for the strategic framework, programme of work and theme topics for sessions of the Commission consistent with the guidance provided by the Commission;
- (d) To receive, on a regular basis, information on the administrative and financial functioning of the Commission;
- (e) To advise and guide the Executive Secretary in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Commission's programme of work and resource allocation;
- (f) To review the draft calendar of meetings prior to its submission to the Commission at its annual session;
- (g) To advise and guide the Executive Secretary on the provisional agenda for sessions of the Commission and committees subsidiary to the Commission, consistent with the need to ensure a results-oriented and focused agenda that is aligned with the developmental priorities of member States, as defined by them, as well as chapter II of its rules of procedure;
- (h) To advise and guide the Executive Secretary on the identification of emerging economic and social issues and other relevant issues for incorporation into

the provisional agendas and on the formulation of the annotated provisional agendas for Commission sessions;

(i) To be informed of collaboration and related arrangements between the secretariat and other international and regional organizations, in particular on long-term cooperation programmes and joint initiatives, including those to be proposed by the Executive Secretary and conducted under the aegis of the Regional Coordination Mechanism;

(j) To carry out any other tasks entrusted to it by the Commission.

Annex III

Meetings of subsidiary bodies and other intergovernmental bodies held since the seventy-second session of the Commission

Subsidiary bodies and officers		Session	Document symbol
<i>Committees</i>			
I. Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation		First session Bangkok 5-7 October 2016	E/ESCAP/73/10
Chair	Mr. Meas Po (Cambodia)		
Vice-Chairs	Mr. MD Mozibur Rahman (Bangladesh) Mr. Jigme Thinlye Namgyal (Bhutan)		
Rapporteur	Mr. Anitelu Toimoana (Tonga) Mr. Bünyamin Er (Turkey)		
II. Committee on Statistics		Fifth session Bangkok 14-16 December 2016	E/ESCAP/73/24
Chair	Mr. Suhariyanto (Indonesia)		
Vice-Chair	Mr. Ning Jizhe (China) Ms. Wah Wah Maung (Myanmar) Mr. Alexander Surinov (Russian Federation)		
Member	Mr. Mohammadsadegh Alipour (Islamic Republic of Iran)		
Rapporteur	Mr. Simil Johnson Youse (Vanuatu)		
III. Committee on Energy		First session Bangkok 17-19 January 2017	E/ESCAP/73/30
Chair	Mr. Ajith P. Perera (Sri Lanka)		
Vice-Chairs	Mr. Areepong Bhoocha-oom (Thailand) Mr. Talyat Aliev (Russian Federation) Mr. Bhagwati Prasad Pandey (India) Mr. Vijay Nath (Fiji) Mr. Fengquan An (China)		
Rapporteur	Mr. Ali Gholampour (Islamic Republic of Iran)		

Subsidiary bodies and officers		Session	Document symbol
<i>Governing councils of regional institutions</i>			
I. Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development		Eleventh session Bangkok 5-6 October 2016	E/ESCAP/73/18
Chair	Mr. Rodolfo Salalima (Philippines)		
Vice-Chair	Ms. Chitranganie Mubarak (Sri Lanka)		
II. Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management		First session New Delhi 2 November 2016	E/ESCAP/73/19
Chair	Mr. Seyed Hamid Pourmohammadi (Islamic Republic of Iran)		
Vice-Chair	Mr. Krishna Bahadur Raut (Nepal)		
III. Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific		Twelfth session Bangkok 12-13 December 2016	E/ESCAP/73/26
Chair	Ms. Josie Perez (Philippines)		
Vice-Chair	Mr. Naoki Makita (Japan)		
IV. Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology		Twelfth session Islamabad 19-21 December 2016	E/ESCAP/73/13
Chair	Mr. Fazal Abbas Maken (Pakistan)		
Vice-Chair	Mr. Kolinio Takali (Fiji)		
V. Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture		Thirteenth session Bogor, Indonesia 28 February 2017	E/ESCAP/73/8
Chair	Mr. Jitendra Singh (Fiji)		
Vice-Chair	Mr. Hasil Sembiring (Indonesia)		
VI. Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization		Twelfth session Bangkok 16 March 2017	E/ESCAP/73/14
Chair	Mr. Rohan Ranganath Amitha Wijekoon (Sri Lanka)		
Vice-Chair	Mr. Sultan Ahmmed (Bangladesh)		
<i>Other intergovernmental meetings</i>			
I. Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia		Eleventh session Ganja, Azerbaijan 22-23 November 2016	E/ESCAP/73/27
Chair	Mr. Sahil Babayev (Azerbaijan)		

Subsidiary bodies and officers		Session	Document symbol
II. Ministerial Conference on Transport		Third session Moscow 5-9 December 2016	E/ESCAP/73/15
Chair	Mr. Maksim Sokolov (Russian Federation)		
Vice-Chairs	Mr. Mohammadullah Bataash (Afghanistan) Mr. Vahan Martirosyan (Armenia) Mr. Ziya Mammadov (Azerbaijan) Mr. M.A.N. Siddique (Bangladesh) Mr. Mustappa Sirat (Brunei Darussalam) Mr. Chanthol Sun (Cambodia) Mr. Liu Xiaoming (China) Mr. Jong Gwan Kang (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) Mr. Sugihardjo (Indonesia) Mr. Davoud Keshavarzian (Islamic Republic of Iran) Mr. Koichiro Kakee (Japan) Mr. Zhenis Kassymbek (Kazakhstan) Mr. Berik Kamaliyev (Kazakhstan) Mr. Zhamshitbek Kalilov (Kyrgyzstan) Mr. Santisouk Simmalavong (Lao People's Democratic Republic) Mr. Liow Tiong Lai (Malaysia) Mr. Ganbat Dangaa (Mongolia) Mr. Thant Sin Maung (Myanmar) Mr. Valdon Dowiyogo (Nauru) Mr. Sitaram Mahto (Nepal) Mr. Ahsan Iqbal (Pakistan) Mr. Artemio U. Tuazon Jr. (Philippines) Mr. Garry V. De Guzman (Philippines) Mr. Hoontaik Suh (Republic of Korea) Mr. Nikolay Asaul (Russian Federation) Mr. Tsydenov Alexey (Russian Federation) Mr. Papaliitele Nickel Lee Hang (Samoa) Mr. Sherali Ganjalzoda (Tajikistan) Mr. Ormsin Chivapruck (Thailand) Mr. Oraz Hurtyyev (Turkmenistan) Mr. Monise Laafai (Tuvalu) Mr. Nguyen Hong Truong (Viet Nam)		
Rapporteur	Mr. Dhana Bahadur Tamang (Nepal)		
III. Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development		Fourth session Bangkok 29-31 March 2017	E/ESCAP/73/31
Chair	Mr. Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary (Pakistan)		
Vice-Chairs	Mr. Thinley Namgyel (Bhutan) Mr. Semi Koroilavesau (Fiji) Mr. Subandi Sardjoko (Indonesia) Ms. Zhyldyz Polotova (Kyrgyzstan) Mr. Min Bahadur Shrestha (Nepal) Mr. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera (Sri Lanka) Mr. Arjuna Sujeewa Senasinghe (Sri Lanka) Mr. Ezizgeldi Annamuhammedov (Turkmenistan)		
Rapporteur	Ms. Rosemarie G. Edillon (Philippines)		

Annex IV

Publications and documents issued by the Commission

A. Publications issued since the seventy-second session*

Executive direction and management

ESCAP Annual Report 2016.

*What's Ahead @ ESCAP.***

Subprogramme 1

Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development¹

Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report 2017: Investing in Infrastructure for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future. ST/ESCAP/2774 (Sales No. E.17.II.F.9).

Asia-Pacific Development Journal:

Vol. 23, No. 1, June 2016. ST/ESCAP/2764 (Sales No. E.17.II.F.4).

Vol. 23, No. 2, December 2016. ST/ESCAP/2767 (Sales No. E.17.II.F.6).

*CAPSA e.digest:***

May 2016.

June 2016.

July 2016.

August 2016.

September 2016.

October 2016.

November 2016.

December 2016.

January 2017.

February 2017.

March 2017.

*CAPSA e.flash:***

May 2016.

June 2016.

July 2016.

August 2016.

September 2016.

October 2016.

November 2016.

December 2016.

January 2017.

February 2017.

March 2017.

* Where applicable, the ESCAP document symbol and (in parentheses) United Nations publication sales numbers are noted. A double asterisk (**) denotes publications that are available online only.

¹ Including the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (CAPSA).

CAPSA Fact Sheets:

- No. 17/2016: “Supporting value chains for seed development of pulses, legumes and oil crops in Myanmar’s dry zone”.
- No. 18/2016: “Supporting climate resilient and sustainable agriculture in Myanmar’s dry zone”.
- No. 19/2016: “Assessment of stakeholder interventions for sustainable agriculture in Myanmar’s dry zone”.
- No. 20/2016: “Strengthening policies, institutions and processes for sustainable agricultural mechanization development in Myanmar’s dry zone”.
- No. 21/2016: “Promoting custom hiring of agricultural machines for climate resilient agriculture in Myanmar’s dry zone”.

CAPSA Working Papers:

- No. 110, 2016: “Promoting private sector engagement for agricultural development in Myanmar’s dry zone”.
- No. 111, 2017: “Promoting participatory decision-making for better policy design and implementation for sustainable agriculture in Myanmar’s dry zone”.

CAPSA Case Studies:

- “Assessment of stakeholder interventions for sustainable agriculture in Myanmar’s dry zone”.
- “Policies, institutions and processes to support climate resilient and sustainable agriculture in Myanmar’s dry zone: role of national environment policy, national comprehensive development plan and national strategy on poverty alleviation and rural development”.
- “Policies, institutions and processes to support value chains for seed development for pulses, legumes and oil crops in the dry zone”.
- “Policies, institutions and processes to support agricultural mechanization development in Myanmar’s dry zone”.
- “Stakeholder mapping for custom hiring of agricultural machines in the dry zone of Myanmar”.

CAPSA Training Manuals:

- “Mungbean: seed production training manual”.
- “Business management of custom hiring of agricultural machinery in the dry zone”.
- “Participatory rural appraisal to support local planning for climate-resilient agriculture”.

Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2016: Year-end Update.
ST/ESCAP/2762.

Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2017: Governance and Fiscal Management. ST/ESCAP/2771 (Sales No. E.17.II.F.8).

Enhancing Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific.
ST/ESCAP/2781.

MPFD Policy Briefs:^{**}

- No. 42, June 2016: “Developing renewable energy in Pacific small island developing States”.
- No. 43, June 2016: “Smooth transition and graduation of least developed countries: coping with natural disasters and climate change”.
- No. 44, July 2016: “Enhancing financial inclusion in Asia and the Pacific”.
- No. 45, April 2017: “Promoting effective public-private partnerships for infrastructure development”.

- No. 46, April 2017: "Taxing for shared prosperity".
- No. 47, April 2017: "Policy approaches to scale impact investment in Asia-Pacific".
- No. 48, April 2017: "Promoting investment in the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (AP-IS)".
- No. 49, April 2017: "Financing social protection".
- No. 50, April 2017: "Financing energy connectivity".
- No. 51 May 2017: "Fiscal stance and fiscal sustainability in Asia and the Pacific".
- No. 52, May 2017: "Social protection in Asia and the Pacific: why now and where do we stand?".
- No. 53, May 2017: "Internalizing the environmental costs of production: policy instruments and priorities".
- No. 54, May 2017: "Role of governance in clean energy innovation policies in East and North-East Asia".
- No. 55, May 2017: "Deepening integration for economic diversification in North and Central Asia".
- No. 56, May 2017: "Fiscal policy for better health outcomes in the Pacific".
- No. 57, May 2017: "Structural transformation to create high-productivity jobs in South and South-West Asia".
- No. 58, May 2017: "Narrowing development gaps through better governance in South-East Asia".
- No. 59, May 2017: "How does governance affect fiscal management? Evidence from Asian-Pacific countries".
- No. 60, May 2017: "E-Government for better governance and fiscal management".
- No. 61, May 2017: "Governance and development outcomes: chicken and egg".

*MPFD Working Papers:***

- WP/16/05, June 2016: "Obstacles to productivity in Asia and Pacific region: finance reigns".
- WP/16/06, June 2016: "China's productivity: past success and future challenges".
- WP/16/07, June 2016: "Fostering productivity in the rural and agricultural sector for inclusive growth and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific".
- WP/16/08, June 2016: "Productivity growth in India: determinants and policy initiatives based on the existing literature".
- WP/16/09, June 2016: "Complementarities between the global programmes of action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".
- WP/17/01, February 2017: "What's gender got to do with firm productivity? Evidence from firm level data in Asia".
- WP/17/02, April 2017: "Estimating infrastructure financing needs in Asia-Pacific least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States".
- WP/17/03, April 2017: "Do data show divergence? Revising global income inequality trends".
- WP/17/04, April 2017: "Tapping capital markets and institutional investors for infrastructure development".
- WP/17/05, April 2017: "Metropolitan city finances in the Asia and Pacific region: issues, problems and reform options".
- WP/17/06, April 2017: "Environmental tax reforms in Asia and the Pacific".

- WP/17/07, April 2017: “Issues paper on tax policy and public expenditure management for sustainable development”.
- WP/17/08, April 2017: “Public-private partnerships for cross-border infrastructure development”.
- WP/17/09, April 2017: “PPP policy, legal and institutional frameworks in Asia and the Pacific”.
- WP/17/10, April 2017: “Financial regulatory issues for financial inclusion”.
- WP/17/11, April 2017: “Small and medium enterprises financing”.
- WP/17/12, April 2017: “Tax incentives and tax base protection in developing countries”.
- WP/17/13, April 2017: “Prospects for progressive tax reforms in Asia-Pacific”.
- WP/17/14, April 2017: “The state of finance in Asia and the Pacific”.

Palawija Newsletter:^{**} (CAPSA)

Vol. 33, No. 1, April 2016

- “Role of research in nutrition-sensitive agriculture for food security in Asia and the Pacific”.
- “Nutrition and gender sensitive agriculture”.

Vol. 33, No. 2, August 2016

- “Promoting sustainable agriculture production and products in the Asia and Pacific region”.
- “Sustainability certification in Indonesia: the road towards sustainability?”.

Vol. 33, No. 3, December 2016

- “Small-scale farmer innovation for sustainable agriculture: building on indigenous knowledge to move towards farmer-led joint research”.
- “Dampit cropping pattern: East Java farmer-led innovation to respond to climate change”.

SATNET Asia Update: (CAPSA)

No. 12, April 2016.

No. 13, September 2016.

No. 14, December 2016.

No. 15, January 2017.

No. 16, February 2017.

No. 17, March 2017.

Subprogramme 2
Trade and investment²

“ANTAM standard code for testing of power tillers” (CSAM).

“ANTAM standard code for testing of powered knapsack misters-cum-dusters” (CSAM).

ARTNeT Newsletter:^{**}

May 2016.

June 2016.

July 2016.

² Including the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) and the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (CSAM).

August 2016.
September 2016.
October 2016.
November 2016.
December 2016.
January 2017.
February 2017.
March 2017.

ARTNeT Policy Briefs: **

No. 49, November 2016: “The role of ICT in implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement: some preliminary reflections”.

ARTNeT Working Papers: **

- No. 156, June 2016: “Asymmetries in international merchandise trade statistics: a case study of selected countries in Asia and the Pacific”.
- No. 157, July 2016: “The economic impact of Trans-Pacific partnership: what have we learned from CGE simulation?”.
- No. 158, August 2016: “Inequality in Asia: convergence and determinants”.
- No. 159, August 2016: “Does access to finance facilitates the firm’s ability to export? Experience from Asia-Pacific countries”.
- No. 160, September 2016: “Relative benefits/losses of India aligning with RCEP and BRICS countries under the conjecture of free trade area in goods”.
- No. 161, September 2016: “Farmer suicides in India and the weather god”.
- No. 162, October 2016: “Services liberalization in transition economies: the case of North and Central Asia”.
- No. 163, October 2016: “Ageing and consumer spending: some preliminary findings from India and China”.
- No. 164, November 2016: “Do trade facilitation provisions in regional trade agreements matter? Impact on trade costs and multilateral spillovers”.
- No. 165, January 2017: “Regional trade agreements and cross-border trade costs: the case of Pacific island countries”.
- No. 166, April 2017: “Policy landscape of trade in environmental goods and services”.

Asia-Pacific Tech Monitor (APCTT):

- Vol. 33, No. 1, January-March 2016: “Science, technology and innovation as a means to achieve 2030 sustainable development agenda”.
- Vol. 33, No. 2, April-June 2016: “Technology transfer through foreign direct investment: policy approaches in the Asia-Pacific region”.
- Vol. 33, No. 3, July-September 2016: “Social innovation for inclusive and sustainable development: current practices and challenges”.

Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Agreements Database. **

APTIAD Briefing Notes: **

No. 8, August 2016: “An update on the preferential trade agreements of Asia-Pacific economies”.

Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2016: Recent Trends and Developments.
ST/ESCAP/2760 (Sales No. E.16.II.F.23).

*CSAM Case Studies:***

“Policies, institutions and processes to support agricultural mechanization development in Myanmar’s dry zone”.

“Stakeholder mapping for custom hiring of agricultural machines in the dry zone of Myanmar”.

*CSAM Policy Briefs:***

“Promoting custom hiring of agricultural machines for climate resilient agriculture in Myanmar’s dry zone”.

“Strengthening policies, institutions and processes for sustainable agricultural mechanization development in Myanmar’s dry zone”.

*CSAM Training Manuals:***

“Business management of custom hiring of agricultural machinery in the dry zone”.

“ANTAM standard codes for testing of power tillers”.

“ANTAM standard codes for testing of powered knapsack misters-cum-dusters”.

*ESCAP-World Bank Trade Cost Database.***

*ESCAP International Supply Chain Connectivity (ISCC) Index.***

*Expert Database (UNNExT).***

*ESCAP Trade Facilitation Newsletters:***

April-June 2016.

October-December 2016.

July-September 2016.

January-March 2017.

*NIS Diagnosis and STI Strategy Development to Achieve National Sustainable Development Goals (APCTT, 2016).***

*NTMs, rules of origin and tariff concessions database (APCTT).***

“Proceedings of the 3rd Regional Forum on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Asia and the Pacific” (New Delhi, CSAM, 2016).**

*Regional Organizations Cooperation Mechanism for Trade Facilitation (ROC-TF) Newsletter:***

No. X, August 2016.

No. XI, February 2017.

Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific: Policy Approaches for Least Developed Countries. ST/ESCAP/2756 (Sales No. E.16.II.F.22).

The Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement: Promoting South-South Regional Integration and Sustainable Development. ST/ESCAP/2765 (Sales No. E.16.II.F.13).

*The Research Paper on Trade and Investment Policies of Agricultural Machinery in Selected Countries (CSAM).***

*Trade and Investment Working Paper Series:***

No. 1, April 2016: “Trade performance of Asian landlocked developing economies: state of play and the way forward”.

No. 2, November 2016: “Paperless trade in regional trade agreements”.

No. 1, January 2017: “Renewable energy sector in emerging Asia: development and policies”.

*Trade Insights:***

- No. 17, April 2016: “Trade in the digital age: can e-residency be an enabler for Asia-Pacific developing countries?”.
- No. 18, July 2016: “Removing obstacles to low value consignments trade for Asia-Pacific small and medium-sized enterprises”.
- No. 19, August 2016: “Adding value to Indonesian mining exports: time to revisit export restrictions?”.
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B. Documents submitted to the Commission at its seventy-third session

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Document title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<i>Limited documents</i>		
E/ESCAP/73/L.1	Provisional agenda	1 (c)
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E/ESCAP/73/L.6	Draft resolution: Advancing integrated and seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific	3 (b)
E/ESCAP/73/L.7	Draft resolution: Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific	3 (c)
E/ESCAP/73/L.8	Draft resolution: Strengthening Asia-Pacific's support for the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14	3 (d)
E/ESCAP/73/L.9	Draft resolution: Implementation of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative through regional cooperation	3 (e)
E/ESCAP/73/L.10/Rev.1	Draft resolution: Enhancing regional cooperation for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Asia and the Pacific	3 (f)
E/ESCAP/73/L.11	Draft resolution: Strengthening regional cooperation for sustainable energy development in Asia and the Pacific	3 (j)
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E/ESCAP/73/3	Regional implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024	2 (b)
E/ESCAP/73/4	Report on progress made on the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals in the Pacific	2 (c)

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Document title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
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E/ESCAP/73/10	Report of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation on its first session	3 (b) and (e)
E/ESCAP/73/11	Report of the 3rd meeting of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation	3 (b)
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E/ESCAP/73/17	Starting implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific region: a focus on integration and environment and development issues	3 (d)
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