



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
3 March 2011

Original: English

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Sixty-seventh session

Bangkok, 19-25 May 2011

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

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

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

I. Introduction

1. The present document covers the activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (ACPR) during the period June 2010 to March 2011. The Advisory Committee appointed Mr. Kazi Imtiaz Hossain (Bangladesh) Rapporteur, with the responsibility of presenting the report to the Commission at its sixty-seventh session.

II. Activities of the Advisory Committee

2. During the period under review, ACPR held five regular sessions and one retreat. At its regular sessions, ACPR discussed, among other things, the following subjects:

(a) *Outcome of the sixty-sixth session of the Commission:* In its review of the outcomes of the sixty-sixth session of the Commission, ACPR considered the major achievements of the session, including the adoption of 15 resolutions as well as a decision on the dates, venue and theme topic for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission.¹ The convening of the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries, in its elevated status as an integral part of the Commission session, had provided a vibrant forum for high-level exchange. ACPR commended the Executive Secretary and the secretariat for convening a successful session of the Commission, and

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2010, Supplement No. 19 (E/2010/39-E/ESCAP/66/27)*, paras. 222-224.

expressed particular appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Korea for hosting the event;

(b) *Preparations for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission:* The secretariat informed ACPR of the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of Bangkok as the venue for the sixty-seventh session of the Commission. ACPR reviewed the preparations made by the secretariat and provided advice and guidance on the dates and the provisional agenda for the session as well as the work on the theme study for the session;

(c) *Resolutions adopted by the Commission at its sixty-sixth session:* ACPR provided advice and guidance on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Commission, particularly resolution 66/1 on the Incheon Declaration;

(d) Review of the preparations for and outcomes of the following meetings:

- (i) Second session of the Committee on Social Development;
- (ii) Second session of the Committee on Transport;
- (iii) Second session of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology;
- (iv) Second session of the Committee on Statistics;
- (v) Fifth session of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development;
- (vi) Sixth session of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific;
- (vii) Sixth session of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology;
- (viii) Sixth session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery;
- (ix) Seventh session of the Governing Council of the Centre for the Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture;
- (x) Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific.

(e) *Proposed calendar of ESCAP meetings and training in the period from January to December 2011:* ACPR reviewed the calendar and was provided with clarifications on the proposed items;

(f) *Review of the draft programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013:* ACPR provided comments and suggestions on the draft programme of work, for further consideration by the Commission;

(g) *Briefing on the floods in Pakistan:* ACPR was briefed on the severe flooding in Pakistan and expressed its sympathies and condolences

to the people and Government of Pakistan, as well as its continued support for the recovery efforts. The Executive Secretary outlined activities that ESCAP was undertaking to assist countries in the Asia-Pacific region in addressing the effects of natural disasters and in improving their preparedness and ability to mitigate the risks;

(h) *Midterm review of the implementation of Commission resolution 64/1*: At two regular sessions, ACPR considered background information, including a discussion paper, on the implementation of resolution 64/1 on the restructuring of the conference structure of the Commission, and provided the secretariat with feedback and comments.

3. The ACPR retreat held on 9 and 10 February 2011 was attended by 39 members from 23 countries. At the retreat, ACPR reviewed the draft programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013 and the draft report of the Executive Secretary to the Commission on the midterm review of the functioning of the conference structure of the Commission.

4. ACPR was briefed on the following ongoing ESCAP initiatives and relevant events: (a) the Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2010, held in Kunming, China, from 28 to 30 April 2010, under the theme “Business opportunities and the low-carbon economy”; (b) the Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Programme at ESCAP; and (c) the ESCAP Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness.

5. In addition, ACPR was briefed regularly by the Executive Secretary on the work of the secretariat, including the outcome of her missions to ESCAP members and associate members and her attendance at major meetings.
