ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

ANNUAL REPORT
20 May 2017 – 16 MAY 2018

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 2018

SUPPLEMENT No. 19

UNITED NATIONS
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NOTE

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Sales No.: EOR 2018, Supp. 19
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ISBN: 978-92-1-800051-4
eISBN: 978-92-1-045185-7
Symbol: E/2018/39-ESCAP/74/43
ISSN: 0252-2284
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<td>APCICT</td>
<td>Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APDIM</td>
<td>Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APCTT</td>
<td>Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPSA</td>
<td>Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSAM</td>
<td>Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Machinery</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESCAP</td>
<td>Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEASPEC</td>
<td>North East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIAP</td>
<td>Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<tr>
<td>WMO</td>
<td>World Meteorological Organization</td>
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### 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-fourth session at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 11 to 16 May 2018. The present report covers the period from 20 May 2017 to 16 May 2018 and contains the conclusions reached by the Commission. The account of proceedings of the session is contained in a separate document (ESCAP/74/44).

Chapter I

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

2. At its seventy-fourth session, the Commission adopted eleven resolutions and 44 decisions, which are reproduced below. The eleven resolutions are brought to the attention of the Council.

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

Resolution 74/1
Supporting the smooth transition of the least developed countries in Asia and the Pacific towards a sustainable graduation

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration\(^1\) and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,\(^2\) adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, in which States Members of the United Nations committed to assisting the least developed countries with an overarching goal of enabling half of them to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020, through the eradication of poverty and the achievement of accelerated, sustained, inclusive and equitable growth and sustainable development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which, inter alia, it was recognized that the least developed countries faced specific challenges in their pursuit of sustainable development and deserved special attention,

Recalling further the Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/294 of 25 July 2016 and annexed thereto, in which the participants at the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review recognized the need to provide well-coordinated support so that the goal of enabling the least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020 could be realized,

Recognizing, in this regard, the progress made by Asia-Pacific least developed countries, despite their structural challenges, in achieving the goals and targets of the Istanbul Programme of Action, particularly the aim of enabling half the number of least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020,

Congratulating those countries in the Asian and Pacific region that have already successfully graduated from least developed country status, and noting with appreciation that some least developed countries have been recommended for


\(^{2}\) Ibid., chap. II.
graduation, including Kiribati, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, that some least developed countries have been found eligible for graduation for the second consecutive time, including Bhutan, Nepal, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste, and that some least developed countries met the eligibility criteria for graduation for the first time at the triennial review of the Committee for Development Policy in March 2018, including Bangladesh, which is the largest least developed country in the category, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Myanmar,

Taking into account General Assembly resolutions 59/209 of 20 December 2004 and 67/221 of 21 December 2012 on a smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

Emphasizing that the smooth transition of Asian and Pacific countries from the list of least developed countries is vital to ensuring that these countries are eased onto a sustainable graduation and development path without any disruption to their development plans, programmes and projects,

Acknowledging that the graduation of Asia-Pacific least developed countries symbolizes their considerable long-term socioeconomic progress in prevailing over the structural handicaps to socioeconomic development, and that it also presents many challenges for graduated countries, which continue to face vulnerabilities to various shocks and crises,

Welcoming the efforts of the Government of Bhutan in convening, in collaboration with the secretariat, a regional capacity-building workshop on formulating national policies and strategies in preparation for graduation, in Thimphu in November 2017, and of the Government of Bangladesh in convening, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the High-level Meeting on Achieving Sustainable Graduation for the Least Developed Countries, in Dhaka on 29 and 30 November 2017, and noting their outcomes,

Recalling resolution 71/2 of 29 May 2015 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in Asia and the Pacific, in which the Commission, inter alia, requested the Executive Secretary to assist Asia-Pacific least developed countries to build their capacities for appropriate policy responses to accelerate their structural transformation, and recalling that the final review of the Programme of Action is scheduled for 2020,

1. Recognizes that the graduation process of least developed countries should be coupled with an appropriate package of incentives and support measures in order to not jeopardize their development process;

2. Invites graduating countries from the Asian and Pacific region to start the preparations for their graduation and transition strategy, and invites all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, in a coordinated manner, led by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, to extend necessary support in this regard;

3. Invites the international community and development partners to continue to support graduating least developed countries in the Asian and Pacific region in the implementation of transition strategies and to avoid any abrupt reductions in financial and technical assistance;

4. Calls upon providers of official development assistance to fulfil their respective commitments to the least developed countries, and reiterates that an important use of international public finance, including official development

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assistance, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private;

5. *Invites* development partners to make available in a timely manner information about country-specific development aid measures, including smooth transition measures for the least developed countries in the areas of financial support and technical assistance, covering, inter alia, their time frames, characteristics and modalities;

6. *Expresses its serious concern* at the fact that the share of expenditure for operational activities for the development of the United Nations system in the least developed countries is declining, and invites the United Nations development system to continue to prioritize allocations to least developed countries, reaffirming them as the most vulnerable group of countries, and to provide assistance to graduating countries in the formulation and implementation of their national transition strategies;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

   (a) To encourage high-level policy dialogue among the least developed countries, including countries in the process of graduation and countries that have already graduated in the Asia-Pacific region, inviting relevant development partners and organizations of the United Nations system to share experiences and lessons learned in the context of a smooth transition and sustainable graduation, including during the annual sessions of the Commission and other intergovernmental meetings, as appropriate;

   (b) To provide, upon request, targeted assistance, through capacity-building and policy analysis to graduating countries, within existing mandates and resources, to support the formulation and implementation of smooth national transition strategies towards sustainable graduation;

   (c) To carry out, in line with ongoing work, publications and knowledge products, a needs assessment, before the final review, in 2020, of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, on how to support, in a coordinated manner, the least developed countries of the Asia-Pacific region in their graduation and smooth transition;

   (d) To submit to the Commission at its seventy-sixth session a report on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

**Resolution 74/2**  
Promotion of the regional framework for the planning, design, development and operation of dry ports of international importance

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

*Encouraged* by the successful regional cooperation in the field of transport,

*Noting* the entry into force of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports,

*Recalling* the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific, including the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2017–2021), adopted by the Ministerial Conference on Transport at its third session, held in Moscow from 5 to 9 December 2016,

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5 E/ESCAP/73/15/Add.1.
Recalling also its resolution 73/4 of 19 May 2017 on the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific,

Recognizing the significance of intermodal transport facilities such as dry ports in the establishment of integrated intermodal transport systems,

Noting the recommendation of the Working Group on Dry Ports at its second meeting, held in Bangkok on 14 and 15 November 2017, that the regional framework for the planning, design, development and operation of dry ports of international importance should be submitted to the Commission at its seventy-fourth session, in 2018, for its endorsement through a resolution,

Noting also the importance of well-managed dry ports, particularly those located at a significant distance from seaports, in reducing transportation costs and total transit time, in particular for the Asia-Pacific landlocked countries,

1. Takes note of the regional framework for the planning, design, development and operation of dry ports of international importance, as contained in the annex to the present resolution, and recognizes its potential for assisting member countries in facilitating the development of regional connectivity;

2. Encourages member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To accord priority to the promotion of the regional framework for the planning, design, development and operation of dry ports of international importance by assisting members and associate members in their efforts to realize the vision of a sustainable integrated intermodal transport and logistics system;

(b) To encourage effective coordination with other United Nations and multilateral agencies, relevant subregional organizations, international and regional financing institutions, multilateral and bilateral donors and the private sector while promoting the regional framework;

(c) To facilitate the sharing of experiences and good practices in the planning, design, development and operation of dry ports of international importance while promoting the regional framework;

(d) To seek effective cooperation and collaboration with international and regional financing institutions, multilateral and bilateral donors, private sector investors and international organizations, as appropriate, to mobilize further financial and technical support to the wider development of dry ports of international importance in accordance with their respective mandates;

(e) To report to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-sixth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

Annex
Regional framework for the planning, design, development and operation of dry ports of international importance

1. As a link in the transportation chain, dry ports have proved to have had a positive effect on the efficiency of the transport and logistic chain. Well-managed dry ports, particularly those located at a significant distance from a seaport, help reduce transportation costs and total transit time. This feature is particularly important for the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) region, which has vast hinterland areas and 12 of the world’s 30 landlocked countries.
2. Following the signing and subsequent entry into force of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports, the secretariat is undertaking follow-up activities to ensure its efficient implementation. In this regard, the regional framework for the planning, design, development and operation of dry ports of international importance has been formulated to facilitate the definition of a common approach to the development and operationalization of dry ports of international importance.

3. The key concept underlying this regional framework is that of a network of interconnected dry ports in the ESCAP region. It is envisaged that such a network could be formed from the dry ports nominated for coverage by the Intergovernmental Agreement. Some 150 existing and 86 potential dry ports have been nominated by member countries and included in annex I to the Agreement. This framework provides a means by which their development may be planned so that in the future they may follow the same standards and be interconnected.

4. In the framework, fundamental issues related to both the hard and the soft infrastructure of dry ports of international importance are identified. Following the description of each issue, a related target to be set when designing or operating dry ports of international importance is proposed, as well as the process to follow to reach each target.

I. Basic requirements

Description of the issue

5. To be able to exchange cargo effectively, dry ports must satisfy certain requirements as to the basic services that they provide and the facilities with which they are equipped in order to provide these services.

Target

6. Dry ports should have the infrastructure and equipment necessary for the handling, consolidation, storage and modal transfer of containers and other types of unitized cargo. They should also have the authority, capability and facilities for all border clearance of cargo and they should be located within, or close to, areas with a high concentration of industry which generate export or import trade, with adequate connections to seaports and other dry ports via rail and road linkages.

Process

7. Dry ports of international importance should adhere to the guiding principles for the development and operation of dry ports as contained in annex II to the Agreement.

II. Dry port location

Description of the issue

8. The location of a dry port is a major determinant of its operational and financial success, as well as of its success in minimizing logistics costs (overall handling, transport and storage costs between an origin and destination). Dry ports should be located as close as possible to cargo sources and trade-generating centres.

Target

9. Dry ports should be connected to cargo sources by short-distance road haulage services (either small break-bulk trucks for de-consolidated cargo or trailer trucks for containers), as transport by road is cost-effective for short distances, of less than 300 kilometres. For linkages to seaports or dry ports in other countries, dry ports should be connected by long-distance railway-container haulage services, as cargoes can be delivered cost-effectively by rail transport for distances over 300 kilometres.
Process

10. Transport infrastructure planners should locate dry ports as close to trade-generating centres as possible and at adequate distances from seaports and other dry ports to ensure the financial viability of the dry ports and to provide cost-effective transport solutions to industry.

III. Transport infrastructure linkages

A. Dry port–seaport linkages

Description of the issue

11. An important function of dry ports is to facilitate access to the sea for landlocked countries and the hinterland regions by consolidating cargo and by providing cost-effective land transport linkages to seaports. However, few seaports can accommodate full-length trains in loading and offloading sidings inside port boundaries. Few, if any, of the region’s seaports have rail sidings located close to container stacks adjacent to berths (in most cases they are 500 metres to 2 kilometres away). This results in multiple handling of rail-delivered containers – typically three lifts per container to and from stacks as compared with only a single lift for road-delivered containers – and a significant competitive disadvantage for rail.

Target

12. Port operators need to commit to improving railway access inside seaports. Rail access inside ports should be as close to the container stacks as possible to reduce multiple handling of containers.

Process

13. Transport planners in member States should, wherever possible, incorporate rail access as close to the container stacks inside ports as possible. In the case of existing ports, priority should be given to improving existing or creating new rail access inside ports.

B. Rail infrastructure within dry ports

Description of the issue

14. Rail-served dry ports must be connected to the nearest main line via a short access line which, in most cases, will be set up by the concerned infrastructure authorities. The rail network within the dry port should have adequate rail infrastructure to accommodate full-length trains.

Target

15. The railway infrastructure to be provided inside a dry port should allow the receipt and dispatch of full-length-unit container trains running between a single origin and a single destination, without the need for them to be broken up or remarshalled outside the dry port.

16. The loading and unloading of trains should take place in centrally located sidings comprising at least three tracks, one each for loading and unloading and one for the release and repositioning of locomotives. The actual number of tracks for loading and unloading to be provided, however, depends on forecast traffic volumes. The container stacks of the container yard should be located on either side of the tracks and the paved areas on which the stacks rest should extend the entire length of the tracks, to allow container-handling equipment to discharge and load containers along the length of each train.
17. The length of the tracks for loading and unloading is determined by the quantity and length of the wagons that a train comprises. For example, for a train with 40 wagons pulled by one diesel locomotive, the track length required between the track points or switches may be calculated as 660 metres.\(^6\)

18. The design axle load of the rail sidings should be compatible with that of the main line. In the case of metre-gauge railways, this is typically 20 tons per axle, and for wider gauges it is generally in the range of 22.5 to 25 tons. Even at the lower level, the axle load is sufficient to accept heavy locomotives and wagons carrying two fully loaded 20-foot containers or a single fully loaded 40-foot container.

**Process**

19. Dry-port planners should ensure that rail-served dry ports are equipped with the necessary rail infrastructure to ensure seamless connectivity between dry ports and seaports and/or other dry ports.

**C. Road transport linkages**

**Description of the issue**

20. Dry ports need good-quality road linkages to cargo sources and to seaports and/or other dry ports. Countries lacking a comprehensive rail network also need access to seaports via multi-lane highways. The Asian Highway network can provide good coverage to the region’s dry ports. However, the quality of roads that make up the Asian Highway network varies across countries, which can affect transit times and contribute to congestion on highways.

**Target**

21. Dry-port planners need to ensure that there are no missing links in the highway networks linking the dry ports that prevent seamless transport between dry ports and seaports or between dry ports in the region, especially in countries where containers are transported to seaports by road instead of by rail. Road-capacity bottlenecks that hinder seamless connectivity between dry ports and seaports need to be eliminated.

**Process**

22. Dry-port planners should ensure adequate primary road links between seaports and inland trade-generating centres and dry ports. Any capacity bottlenecks along highways that hinder seamless transport connectivity should be eliminated.

**D. Road infrastructure within dry ports**

**Description of the issue**

23. The efficient operation of dry ports depends in large part on the unimpeded circulation of trucks throughout most of the dry port area, except at the intersection with the rail access line, which needs to be protected by automatic level-crossing barriers and warning devices.

**Target**

24. The internal roads within dry ports should be constructed with a width of 15 metres, to allow handling equipment and trucks to pass safely. Moreover, the roads should be designed taking into account the axle loads applicable to the local highway

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\(^6\) The detailed calculation is as follows: 1 diesel electric main-line locomotive (22 metres) + 40 wagons measuring 2 twenty-foot equivalent units (14.45 metres) + 10-per-cent allowance for braking = 660 metres.
system, as the trucks delivering break-bulk cargo between shippers’ or consignees’ premises and the dry ports will have to meet these requirements.

**Process**

25. Dry-port planners should ensure that road infrastructure within dry ports is adequate to ensure the smooth flow of vehicles operating within, entering and exiting the dry ports.

**IV. Technical standards for dry ports**

**Description of the issue**

26. Adherence to identical design standards is not necessary for dry ports to function effectively as interrelated components of a regional network, but there is a need for some consistency among them in terms of the basic types of services offered and the design of the infrastructure needed to provide these services.

**Target**

27. In order to enable the direct consignment and transport of cargo from one dry port within the network to another, facilities need to be provided for the following:

   (a) The handling, consolidation, storage and modal transfer of containers and cargo;

   (b) The customs and other border control inspection and clearance of international cargo.

28. These facilities should, at a minimum, comprise the following: a fenced, secure customs area with a limited number of entry and exit points and with working areas and entry points segregated for the handling of different types of traffic; a container yard that can receive and dispatch containers by road and rail, as well as storing containers; a container freight station in which cargo can be loaded into and discharged from containers; a customs inspection area where cargo can be discharged for inspection; a bonded warehouse for the storage of bonded cargo; and an administration building of two or more levels accommodating dry-port management, offices for customs inspectors, offices for freight forwarders and cargo agents, offices for banking or financial service providers and staff amenities (such as a restaurant).

**Process**

29. The scale of the necessary infrastructure must be planned in accordance with the projected peak level of container and cargo volume to be handled within the planning horizon (approximately 20 years). The areas of the container yard, container freight station and bonded warehouse, in particular, depend upon projected handling volume. The area of the container yard also depends upon the type of container-handling system to be employed, which is demand driven, and on the length and number of railway sidings to be incorporated into the design.

30. In order to satisfy the requirement of promoting environmentally sustainable forms of transport, dry ports must provide efficient access to rail. Where relevant, they should also be connected to inland-waterway transport landings and quays.

**V. Container yard capacity and equipment**

**Description of the issue**

31. The layout of the container yard depends upon the length of the rail siding tracks as well as the type of handling system to be employed.
32. Generally, the choice of handling system is between a reach-stacker system and portal crane systems, such as rubber-tyre gantry cranes or rail-mounted gantry cranes. Reach-stackers are more land-intensive – requiring more land area to store a given number of containers – and are relatively inexpensive compared with portal crane systems, whereas the latter can accommodate denser stacking of containers and are therefore less land-intensive.

33. The choice of handling system depends in part on the expected volume of containers to be handled. In general, the reach-stacker system is cost-effective for container yard throughputs of up to 200,000 twenty-foot equivalent units per year, beyond which a portal crane system may be justified.

34. Whether reach-stacker or portal crane systems are used, container-lifting equipment is required to work along the length of the tracks for loading and unloading.

35. In the case of a portal crane system, the crane straddles at least the tracks and a roadway, and possibly even the container stack as well. This is because containers may be stacked in dense blocks with very little space between the blocks.

36. In the case of a reach-stacker system, at least two reach-stacker units work simultaneously either side of the tracks for loading and unloading, with the container yard separated by the tracks into two paved areas. In each section, container stacks are arranged along the train working length in blocks of approximately four twenty-foot equivalent units in width, three twenty-foot equivalent units in depth and three to four twenty-foot equivalent units in height, each separated by a width of 13 metres to allow for the turning circle of a reach-stacker. The actual dimensions of the blocks depend upon the lifting capacity of the reach-stackers used.\(^7\) The reach-stackers lift containers directly between wagons and the stacks, thereby avoiding the need to use prime movers and yard trailers, except for the repositioning of containers from the stack or wagons to the container freight station or customs inspection area.

37. The annual container throughput capacity of a dry port is determined by the number of times per year on average that its container yard storage volume is turned. If the container yard storage volume is 1,400 twenty-foot equivalent units, then the average dwell time for a container cannot exceed 4.5 days if the annual throughput is to reach 100,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (assuming an operating year of 330 days).

Process

38. In order to minimize costs, the container yard should be constructed using heavy-duty flexible paving materials, such as interlocking paving blocks, but the pavement must be designed to withstand the heavy wheel loadings of container-lifting equipment. For example, the wheel loading of a reach-stacker lifting up to 45 tons is 25 tons per wheel.

VI. Design of other major facilities

Description of the issue

39. In some dry ports in the region, facilities such as the container freight station, bonded warehouse and customs inspection area are designed and built without proper consideration of the capacity and factual throughput of the dry port in question, which hinders the efficiency of its operations.

\(^7\) In this case, it was assumed that reach-stackers can lift near full loads of four twenty-foot equivalent units in height to and from the third row of containers in a stack.
**Target**

40. The area of the container freight station, bonded warehouse and customs inspection area is determined in proportion to the maximum container throughput volume expected to be handled in the dry port. The daily number of containers (in twenty-foot equivalent units) to be handled or processed through these facilities is calculated as a proportion of the expected throughput volume in twenty-foot equivalent units. The floor area of cargo discharged from these containers is calculated by applying to the volume an average area of 30 square metres per twenty-foot equivalent unit and a traffic circulation factor of 1.3.

41. The container freight station should be designed with container bays facing a raised platform for loading and unloading on one side, and bays for loading and unloading trucks on the other. Containers are packed and unpacked using forklift trucks while still on their trailers. Similarly, break-bulk trucks are loaded and unloaded from a raised platform by smaller forklifts.

**Process**

42. Detailed requirements for other buildings, such as the administration building, bonded warehouse, customs inspection facility and security building, should be determined through consultations with local customs staff as well as with freight forwarders and other service providers. The buildings design should take into account the expected volume of containers that will be handled at the facilities.

**VII. Terminal management information technology system**

**Description of the issue**

43. Application of real-time tracking systems of containers and other cargo based on information technology can increase the reliability and security of goods transport operations between dry ports and seaports, thus allowing the simplification of customs and other control formalities at dry ports.

**Target**

44. It is essential for the entry, exit and placement into storage of containers and cargo to be tracked by a real-time computer system, such that it is possible to locate any container or cargo consignment from its departure from a seaport, or from a shipper’s premises, to its arrival in the dry port and placement into storage.

45. In addition, a computerized yard control system should be used to determine with precision where a container is to be placed in the stack.

**Process**

46. Dry-port planners or operators of existing dry ports should consider deploying information technology systems that identify in real time the location of containers or other consignments to be shipped to a dry port from a seaport, as well as computerized container-yard management systems.

**VIII. Coding of dry ports of international importance**

**Description of the issue**

47. The United Nations Code for Trade and Transport Locations refers to a system of codes developed for uniquely identifying locations, such as airports, seaports and inland freight terminals, that handle international trade. The codes are of a five-character format, the first two characters indicating the country in which the place is located followed by three characters indicating the specific location.
48. However, so far very few dry ports have applied for a code, which prevents them from being easily identified and recognized as points of origin or destination in the course of transport operations and limits the possibility of establishing a network of dry ports of international importance.

**Target**

49. Through the adoption of international port codes, electronic links can be established between dry ports in the regional network. This would be of considerable benefit in facilitating trade and the electronic exchange of documents between dry ports located in different countries. Indeed, this is already happening for the exchange of cargo between dry ports located in at least two countries in the region.

50. The codes are managed, maintained and updated by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Europe. They are maintained as a relational database, and may be updated on request from users.

**Process**

51. It is strongly recommended that all dry ports that have not yet applied for a code should do so. There is a procedure for interested parties to register new locations online, details of which are available on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe. The ESCAP Transport Division is available to assist countries in this process.

IX. Incorporation of dry ports into international transport documents

**Description of the issue**

52. In practice, the transport documents that are applied to cross-border transport operations are already used for the consignment of cargo between dry ports located in different countries in the region. The current format of these documents is adequate for international cargo exchanges between dry ports. In particular, there are practical examples of the application of the multimodal transport bill of lading of the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations to operations between dry ports in the region. Similarly, the existing international railway consignment notes (such as that under the Agreement on International Railway Freight Communications – SMGS – and the common CIM/SMGS consignment note under the Uniform Rules concerning the Contract for International Carriage of Goods by Rail – CIM – and SMGS) and international road transport consignment note (under the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road) can also be applied to operations between dry ports.

53. However, transport operations between dry ports are generally uncommon in the region.

54. One of the reasons for this is the lack of recognition of dry ports by government authorities as points of origin or destination where customs formalities and other control procedures associated with cross-border transport operations can be fully discharged with due efficiency.

**Target**

55. All dry ports covered by the Agreement should widely serve as points of origin or destination for cross-border transport operations and be identified accordingly in the related transport documents.

**Process**

56. Cross-border transport operations between dry ports located in different countries should be further promoted among shippers, freight forwarders and transport operators. There is no need for changes to the transport documents utilized for cross-border transport operations.
57. However, the introduction of transport operations between dry ports in some countries may (but not necessarily) require the adjustment of domestic regulations related to customs and other control procedures and formalities.

58. The recognition of dry ports by government control authorities as points where customs and other control formalities related to cross-border transport operations can be efficiently carried out may be another important precondition for the introduction of dry ports as points of origin and destination for cross-border transport operations.

X. Proposed arrangements for customs clearance at dry ports

Description of the issue

59. Dry ports must be able to offer the full range of functions (customs, quarantine and health) for the border clearance of international cargo. As already observed, for there to be effective interoperability between dry ports within a regional network, the dry ports must have the facilities and full authority to clear international cargo and intermediate border checks must be kept to the minimum necessary for border security.

60. Preferably, there should be border inspection staff based permanently at dry ports, or alternatively staff should be available on demand to undertake inspections there. Customs inspection staff are permanently based at many existing dry ports in the region.

Target

61. In order to make fully effective the border clearance functions of dry ports, it is necessary to integrate the different border control processes (customs, quarantine and health) and documentation under a single authority within each dry port. This is the single-window concept, the adoption of which is essential to eliminate the duplication of procedures and staff and reduce the volume of documents to be processed in dry ports.

62. The border clearance functions of dry ports can also be enhanced by providing on-site inspection staff with the information technology systems necessary to carry out risk assessment of import consignments. In some countries in the region, customs authorities have adopted a system of cargo pre-clearance whereby import consignments are assessed for risk 72 hours before the vessel’s arrival in port. Such assessments are carried out with the assistance of online information related to customer (or consignee) profiles to determine whether clearance of consignments poses an acceptable level of risk. There are strong benefits to be realized from such assessments being carried out by border control staff based at dry ports, particularly if they will in future have ultimate authority for the clearance of cargo consigned to their facility.

Process

63. Where necessary, the relevant regulations should be amended to eliminate comprehensive checking of cargo at maritime or land borders and to allow full clearance procedures to be carried out at destination dry ports.

XI. Policy measures, legislation and solutions for planning dry port development

Description of the issue

64. Generally fragmented authority for the coordination and planning of dry port development in the region has limited the effectiveness and delivery of government policies designed to assist this development. Coordination is particularly weak in countries that rely extensively (and sometimes exclusively) on private sector investment in dry port development.
Target

65. The activities of a proper coordination agency can be usefully directed at developing and applying the following policy initiatives to assist the development and establishment of dry ports:

   (a) Taxation and other financial measures, including tax holidays or waivers and concessional land rent or public utility rates;

   (b) Priority development of transport infrastructure connecting to dry ports, including, where relevant, the provision of investment incentives for private developers of dry ports;

   (c) Incorporation of dry ports into export processing or other free trade zones, taking care to ensure the capability of such facilities to generate cargo-handling volume for dry ports;

   (d) Regulatory measures to encourage sustainable transport connections to dry ports, including the regulation of truck weights and dimensions to discourage the operation of environmentally damaging vehicles.

Process

66. Policy measure (a) above does not seem to have been applied widely within the region, and where it has applied, it seems not to have been very effective. There is evidence that measure (b) has been applied successfully in at least one country in the region. Measure (c) can be successful in generating sufficient volume to ensure the financial viability of dry ports, but only where the free trade zone has a strong manufacturing base. A free trade zone located at or near an inland border is unlikely to have this characteristic.

67. In the case of policy measure (d), there may be a need to reverse the direction of policies previously applied to relax regulations related to truck weights and dimensions.

68. Coordination of planning activities for dry port development should be assigned to an inter-agency committee, under the authority of a single transport ministry and with representation from all agencies that have a regulatory interest and are involved in dry port development and operation. There is evidence that such an approach is being applied successfully in a few countries in the region.

XII. Practical options for financing the development and operation of dry ports

Description of the issue

69. Within the region, public-private partnerships are currently the most popular option for financing investment in new dry port development, but there are relatively few existing dry port projects that have been financed in this way. The concepts of public-private partnerships have recently been applied widely throughout the region to transport infrastructure projects, such as highways and seaports, where the level and stability of demand is guaranteed. There is a high risk associated with dry port investments, owing to the uncertain level and stability of demand, particularly in some inland areas, and in some cases the uncertain level of competition.

Target

70. There are three main options for financing the development and operation of dry ports:
(a) Option 1: Financing by the public sector and outsourcing of operation through a management contract with the private sector;
(b) Option 2: Private sector financing and operation;
(c) Option 3: Public-private partnership variants.

71. There are varying levels of investment risk associated with these options. Under option 1, all of the risk is assumed by the public sector, which may make it unattractive relative to the constraints and limitations of the public sector budget. Option 2 assigns all of the risk to the private sector, which may make the project unattractive to some potential investors. Variants of option 3 assume different levels of participation by public and private sector parties, ranging from maximum public sector investment in land and infrastructure on the one hand to minimal public sector and maximum private sector investment in infrastructure and equipment on the other.

Process

72. Public-private partnerships are seen to offer an opportunity for Governments to reduce the burden on national budgets, by attracting private investments for expensive infrastructure projects, and at the same time to introduce private sector expertise to the management and operation of these projects.

73. Governments can make public-private partnerships more appealing to potential private sector investors by shouldering a larger part of the capital cost and associated risk. There are several examples in the region when a public-private partnership scheme was successful because the public sector covered all of the project’s infrastructure costs, in addition to providing the land for the project.

Resolution 74/3
Improving road safety in Asia and the Pacific for sustainable transport systems

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”,

Acknowledging the importance of meeting the Sustainable Development Goal targets related to road safety, such as target 3.6, which is to halve, by 2020, the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents, and target 11.2, which is to provide, by 2030, access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons,

Recalling relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolution 64/255 of 2 March 2010, in which the Assembly proclaimed 2011–2020 the Decade of Action for Road Safety and recognized the work of the regional commissions and their subsidiary bodies in increasing their road safety activities and advocating increased political commitment to road safety,

Recalling also resolution 73/4 of 19 May 2017 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific, in which it endorsed the adoption by the Ministerial Conference on Transport of the updated Regional Road Safety Goals and Targets for Asia and the Pacific 2016–2020, contained in annex VI to the Declaration,8

Acknowledging the work of the United Nations system, in particular the leadership of the World Health Organization as a coordinator on road safety issues

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8 E/ESCAP/73/15/Add.1.
within the United Nations system, in close cooperation with the United Nations regional commissions, including the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in establishing, implementing and monitoring various aspects of the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011–2020,

Noting the High-level International Conference “City and Transport: Safety, Efficiency and Sustainability”, held in Khabarovsk, Russian Federation, on 4 and 5 September 2017, following the proposals of the third session of the Ministerial Conference on Transport, held in Moscow from 5 to 9 December 2016, which acknowledged the importance of enhanced Commission activities on improving road safety and developing sustainable urban transport in Asia and the Pacific,

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

Noting the adoption by the Working Group on the Asian Highway at its seventh meeting of annex II bis, entitled “Asian Highway Design Standards for Road Safety”, to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network,

Welcoming the cooperation and coordination between the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Europe on increasing road safety,

Expressing concern at the high level of road traffic fatalities and injuries in the Asia-Pacific region,

Emphasizing the need to further strengthen international cooperation and knowledge-sharing on road safety at all levels,

1. Notes the role of the United Nations legal instruments on road safety, including the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic, the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic, the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals, the 1958 Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of These Prescriptions, the 1998 Agreement concerning the Establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles, the 1997 Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Conditions for Periodical Technical Inspections of Wheeled Vehicles and the Reciprocal Recognition of such Inspections and the 1957 European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, in facilitating road safety at the global, regional and national levels, and acknowledges member States that have acceded to these international legal instruments on road safety;

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9 General Assembly resolution 58/289, para. 2.
10 E/ESCAP/AHWG(7)/5.
12 Ibid., vol. 125, No. 1671.
13 Ibid., vol. 1042, No. 15705.
14 Ibid., vol. 1091, No. 16743.
15 Ibid., vols. 335, 516, 609 and 1891, No. 4789.
16 Ibid., vol. 2119, No. 36868.
17 Ibid., vol. 2133, No. 37244.
18 Ibid., vol. 619, No. 8940.
2. **Encourages** all members and associate members:

   (a) To intensify national efforts and regional collaboration with a view to meeting the road-safety-related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;\(^{19}\)

   (b) To take steps to improve road safety, including by promoting the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2017–2021);\(^{20}\)

3. **Invites** member States that have not already done so to develop and implement national road safety plans, as appropriate, in line with the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011–2020;

4. **Invites** member States to continue to implement professional driver qualification frameworks, established on the basis of internationally recognized standards, including those relating to training, certification and licensing, restricted hours of driving and working conditions that focus on addressing the main causes of accidents for crashes involving heavy commercial vehicles, recognizing that distraction is a significant cause of accidents and crashes;

5. **Notes** the importance of the effective use of information and communications technology, including satellite systems, for timely post-crash response;

6. **Also notes** the approval by consensus of the 12 voluntary global performance targets for road safety risk factors and service delivery mechanisms at the meetings of States members of the World Health Organization held in Geneva on 20 and 21 November 2017 and 22 and 23 February 2018;

7. **Further notes** the establishment of the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund to support progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to road safety;

8. **Requests** the Executive Secretary:

   (a) To continue the activities aimed at supporting the implementation of the objectives and goals of the Decade of Action for Road Safety and of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development targets related to road safety;

   (b) To continue to monitor the progress made in meeting the updated Regional Road Safety Goals and Targets for Asia and the Pacific 2016–2020;\(^{21}\)

   (c) To collaborate with the World Health Organization, the other regional commissions, in particular the Economic Commission for Europe, partners in the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration, international and regional organizations and financing institutions, multilateral and bilateral donors and the private sector, including in the areas of technical and financial support, to improve road safety in Asia and the Pacific;

   (d) To report to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-sixth session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

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19 General Assembly resolution 70/1.
20 E/ESCAP/73/15/Add.1, annex I.
21 Ibid., annex VI.
Resolution 74/4  
Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development for Asia and the Pacific, 2017  

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,  

Recalling its resolution 67/3 of 25 May 2011, in which it decided to convene the seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific,  

Welcoming the successful outcome of the seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 5 to 8 September 2017,  

Noting with appreciation the joint organization, by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Environment Programme, of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Summit on the Environment with the theme “Towards a resource-efficient and pollution-free Asia-Pacific”, which brought together the seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific and the second United Nations Environment Programme Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific,  

1. Endorses the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development for Asia and the Pacific, 2017;  

2. Invites member States to follow up and implement the Ministerial Declaration;  

3. Requests the Executive Secretary:  

(a) To accord priority to the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration;  

(b) To seek cooperation from and ensure coordination with the United Nations Environment Programme and other United Nations bodies, funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in line with their respective mandates;  

(c) To report to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.  

7th plenary meeting  
16 May 2018  

Resolution 74/5  
Transition of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture to an intergovernmental organization outside the United Nations system  

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,  

Recalling its resolutions 174 (XXXIII) of 29 April 1977 and 220 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982 on the establishment of the Regional Coordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific,  

Recalling also its resolutions 60/5 of 28 April 2004, 61/5 of 18 May 2005 and 65/4 of 29 April 2009 on the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific,  

22 ESCAP/74/10.  
23 ESCAP/74/10/Add.1.
Recalling further the agreement between the Government of Indonesia and the United Nations regarding the hosting of the Centre, signed on 29 April 1981,

Recalling the support of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its sixty-sixth session, based on the recommendation of the Governing Council of the Centre, for the change of name from the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific to the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture,

Recalling also its resolution 72/1 of 19 May 2016 on the revision of the statute of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture,

Acknowledging that the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture has continued to contribute to the economic and social development of Asia-Pacific countries by acting as a regional knowledge and training hub for increasing agricultural production, enhancing food security and improving rural livelihood, as well as by providing a forum for policy dialogue, South-South technical cooperation and mutual learning in these areas,

Acknowledging with appreciation the financial resources and facilities that have been provided by the Government of Indonesia to the Centre, as well as the support of other members and associate members,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the Centre on its fourteenth session, in which the Council comprehensively reviewed the Centre’s administrative and financial status and considered options for the Centre’s future and the continuation of its operations, including by enhancing ownership of the Centre by its members,

1. Endorses the report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture on its fourteenth session;

2. Notes with appreciation the announcement by the Government of Indonesia that it would lead and support the transition of the Centre to a new intergovernmental organization outside the United Nations system, as well as the offer of other Governing Council members to join Indonesia to support the transition process;

3. Encourages all members and associate members to support the new organization in shaping its objectives, programmes and activities;

4. Encourages all members, associate members and other relevant stakeholders to support the new organization, including by, but not limited to, providing voluntary financial and in-kind contributions;

5. Notes the recommendation of the Governing Council of the Centre that the new organization may report to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on its activities;

6. Also notes the intention of the Government of Indonesia to establish a transition task force;

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24 ESCAP/74/13.
7. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To take all the necessary administrative and legal steps, as appropriate, by 30 June 2018, to assist the Centre in transforming from a subsidiary body of the Commission to a new organization;

(b) To cooperate with the new organization, and to sustain the partnership, as appropriate;

(c) To take measures to transfer unspent voluntary funding to the new organization, subject to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

(d) To reflect the changes emanating from the above decisions in her report to the Commission at its seventy-fifth session, in 2019, on the midpoint review of the conference structure;

(e) To report to the Commission at its seventy-sixth session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

Resolution 74/6
Advancing disaster-related statistics 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 on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 71/276 of 2 February 2017, in which the Assembly acknowledged the conclusion of the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction and endorsed its recommendations to, inter alia, support States Members of the United Nations in the operationalization of the global indicators to measure progress towards the achievement of the global targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015 on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, particularly paragraph 24 of annex II on priority action at national and local levels on understanding disaster risk,

Recalling resolution 72/11 of 19 May 2016 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on advancing disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific for the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, Commission resolution 71/12 of 29 May 2015 on strengthening regional mechanisms for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific and Commission resolution 70/2 of 23 May 2014, in which it established the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling also decision 49/113 of 9 March 2018 of the Statistical Commission, as contained in its report on its forty-ninth session, held from 6 to 9 March 2018, in which it welcomed a greater focus on disaster-related statistics given the importance of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and included in the agenda of its fiftieth session a separate item on that topic, building on existing work of the

26 General Assembly resolution 69/283, annex II.
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction,

Noting the outcomes of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, including the design and pilot testing of the Disaster-related Statistics Framework and associated guidance on the production and analysis of a harmonized basic range of disaster-related statistics by national agencies,28

Recalling Commission resolution 71/11 of 29 May 2015 on the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management, in which the Commission recognized that the main objective of the Centre would be, inter alia, to strengthen regional cooperation on information sharing and management of disaster risk reduction,

Noting the efforts by the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific to coordinate with related initiatives and to align the Disaster-related Statistics Framework with the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction, established by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/284 of 3 June 2015, of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators of the Statistical Commission, of the Task Force on Measuring Extreme Events and Disaster of the Conference of European Statisticians, and of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management,

Acknowledging the guidance and oversight provided by the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Committee on Statistics to the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific on its work,

Recognizing the necessity of advancing the implementation of the Disaster-related Statistics Framework and of continuing regional coordination, especially exchanges of best practices and technical support for the production and dissemination of harmonized disaster-related statistics for multiple purposes, including reporting on international indicators,

1. Requests the Committee on Statistics, at its sixth session, and the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction, at its sixth session, to review the results of the work of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific and to submit those reviews to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-sixth session;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to support the development of disaster-related statistics using the framework of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Sendai Monitoring;

(b) To continue to accord priority to coordination with other national and international institutions, including through the Global Partnership on Disaster-related Statistics, the working group on geospatial information and services for disasters of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific, and the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management, in order to help to ensure alignment with internationally agreed development goals and to continue to foster cooperation and synergies among relevant initiatives on statistical development and geospatial information management;

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28 See ESCAP/74/24.
(c) To support the preparation of a joint report by the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, pursuant to decision 49/113 of the Statistical Commission, taking into consideration the work of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific.

7th plenary meeting
16 May 2018

Resolution 74/7
Towards disability-inclusive sustainable development: implementation of the Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy

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”, in which the Assembly pledged to leave no one behind,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 71/165 of 19 December 2016 on inclusive development for persons with disabilities, in which the Assembly emphasized that the inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities was integral to the full and inclusive implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto, in particular Assembly resolution 72/162 of 19 December 2017, entitled “Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: situation of women and girls with disabilities”, in which the Assembly called upon States Members of the United Nations to ratify the Convention and strengthen efforts to empower women and girls with disabilities and to enhance their participation and leadership in society,

Recalling resolution 69/13 of 1 May 2013 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, and the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific,

Welcoming the successful outcome of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Midpoint Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, which was hosted by the Government of China in Beijing from 27 November to 1 December 2017,

1. Endorses the Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy;

2. Commits to utilizing the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific and the Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy as

30 Ibid., vol. 2518, No. 44910.
31 ESCAP/74/22.
32 ESCAP/74/22/Add.1.
33 Resolution 69/13, annex, appendix I.
a unique set of tools to support the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development\textsuperscript{34} and the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. \textit{Invites} members and associate members to follow up and implement the Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to accelerate the implementation of the Incheon Strategy;

4. \textit{Requests} the Executive Secretary:

(a) To accord priority to support members and associate members in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific;

(b) To continue to provide technical assistance to members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to integrate disability perspectives and strengthen disability-inclusive development efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(c) To report on progress in the implementation of the present resolution and of resolution 69/13 to the Commission at its seventy-sixth, seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth sessions.

Resolution 74/8

Accelerating the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics 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”,

Recalling also resolution 71/14 of 29 May 2015 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015–2024, in which it endorsed the Ministerial Declaration to “Get Every One in the Picture” in Asia and the Pacific,\textsuperscript{35} adopted by the Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 24 to 28 November 2014,

Recognizing the progress made by members and associate members of the Commission to improve their civil registration and vital statistics systems through the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific,\textsuperscript{36}

Noting with appreciation the work of the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific to support members and associate members in the implementation of the Regional Action Framework,

Taking note of the report on the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific on its third meeting,\textsuperscript{37}

Noting that despite considerable progress, many members and associate members face challenges and therefore strengthened coordination is needed to

\textsuperscript{34} General Assembly resolution 70/1.
\textsuperscript{35} Resolution 71/14, annex, sect. A.
\textsuperscript{36} Ibid., annex, sect. B.
\textsuperscript{37} ESCAP/74/25.
accelerate improvements to ensure that the goals of the Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade are met,

*Noting also* that well-functioning civil registration and vital statistics systems are crucial for advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals,

*Emphasizing* the urgent need to improve civil registration and vital statistics systems for sustainable and inclusive development in the region,

1. *Reiterates* the commitment of members and associate members to the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Decides* to convene a second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific in 2020 to review the midterm progress in the implementation of the Regional Action Framework;

3. *Encourages* members and associate members to further strengthen coordination, monitoring and knowledge-sharing to improve civil registration and vital statistics systems in their countries;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

   (a) To continue to support members and associate members, including through technical assistance upon request, in the implementation of the Regional Action Framework;

   (b) To support the convening of a second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific in 2020, as appropriate;

   (c) To report to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-seventh session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

*7th plenary meeting*
*16 May 2018*

**Resolution 74/9**
**Implementation of the outcomes of the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum**

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

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 67/215 of 21 December 2012, in which the Assembly declared 2014–2024 the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All, as well as Assembly resolution 71/233 of 21 December 2017 on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all,

*Recalling also* resolution 67/2 of 25 May 2011 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, on promoting regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy in Asia and the Pacific, and Commission resolution 70/9 of 8 August 2014, in which it decided to convene the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum in 2018,

*Recalling further* the successful outcome of the First Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, hosted by the Government of the Russian Federation in Vladivostok from 27 to 30 May 2013.\(^{38}\)
Welcoming the successful outcomes of the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, held in Bangkok from 3 to 5 April 2018,\(^{39,40}\)

Noting with satisfaction the high-level participation by member States in the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum and the contribution of key stakeholders and regional and subregional organizations to the preparatory process for the Forum,

1. **Endorses** the Ministerial Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Energy Transition towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies in Asia and the Pacific, adopted by the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum;\(^{40}\)

2. **Invites** members to follow up and implement the Ministerial Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Energy Transition towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies in Asia and the Pacific;

3. **Requests** the Executive Secretary:

   (a) To accord priority to the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Energy Transition towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies in Asia and the Pacific;

   (b) To seek cooperation from and ensure coordination with United Nations bodies, funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in line with their respective mandates;

   (c) To report to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-seventh session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

7th plenary meeting
16 May 2018

Resolution 74/10
Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Enhancing Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration to Support the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling resolution 70/1 of 23 May 2014 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the implementation of the Bangkok Declaration on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific, in which it decided, inter alia, to convene the Second Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific,

Noting the outcome of the Second Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 21 to 24 November 2017,\(^{41,42}\)

1. **Endorses** the Ministerial Declaration on Enhancing Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration to Support the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific;\(^{42}\)

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\(^{39}\) ESCAP/74/27.

\(^{40}\) ESCAP/74/27/Add.1.

\(^{41}\) ESCAP/74/33.

\(^{42}\) ESCAP/74/33/Add.1.
2. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To accord priority to the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration;

(b) To continue to accord priority to enhancing economic cooperation and integration in Asia and the Pacific in the programme of work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and through its conference structure;

(c) To continue to facilitate member States’ efforts with regard to regional economic cooperation and integration in a manner that promotes the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;\(^{43}\)

(d) To support the convening of a third Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific in 2021, as appropriate;

(e) To report to the Commission at its seventy-sixth and seventy-eighth sessions on the implementation of the present resolution.

Resolution 74/11
Strengthening regional cooperation to tackle inequality in all its forms 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”, in which Heads of States and Governments committed themselves to leaving no one behind and, inter alia, to combating inequality within and among countries,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 71/186 of 19 December 2016 on human rights and extreme poverty, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that extreme poverty, deep inequality and exclusion constituted a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action was therefore required to eliminate them,

Recalling further resolution 73/9 of 19 May 2017 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and recalling the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific,\(^{44}\) in which six thematic areas of cooperation were specified for their multisectoral impact on sustainable development,

Emphasizing the important role of integrated and seamless connectivity in promoting sustainable and inclusive development, eradicating poverty and tackling inequality in Asia and the Pacific,

Recognizing inequality as a cross-cutting issue that can take different forms, such as inequality of outcome, inequality of opportunity and inequality of impact, and that its reduction requires integrated policymaking that takes into account economic, social and environmental dimensions,

Emphasizing that gender equality and women’s empowerment and women’s full and equal participation and leadership in the economy are vital to achieve sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity,

Recognizing that unbalanced and inadequate development remains a challenge in the region,

\(^{43}\) General Assembly resolution 70/1.

\(^{44}\) E/ESCAP/73/31, annex II.
Noting with concern that on average, income inequality within countries in the region is on the rise,

Recognizing that strong political commitment, multi-stakeholder participation and multisectoral coordinated actions at the national, regional and global level are essential in emphasizing the progress of reducing inequality in all its forms,

Acknowledging that the external economic environment, among others, has an important bearing on inequalities among countries,

Acknowledging also the transformative impact of technological progress, and recognizing the opportunities and challenges arising from evolving and transformative science and technology and the fourth industrial revolution,

Stressing the importance of regional and global partnership and cooperation to combating inequality,

Taking note of the theme study for the seventy-fourth session of the Commission, in which the secretariat, through its analysis and recommendations, offers insights into the policy alternatives for reducing inequality in all its forms in Asia and the Pacific,

1. Calls upon all members and associate members:

   (a) To recognize and accord higher priority to reducing all forms of inequality, at the forefront of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;⁴⁶

   (b) To intensify poverty alleviation efforts and to continue to take targeted measures to reduce and alleviate poverty, to invest in social protection systems that promote access to essential services, resources and decent jobs, especially for lower income groups and groups with the highest vulnerability, such as youth, elderly persons, persons with disabilities and migrant workers, and to promote gender equality and women’s and girls’ empowerment at all levels to ensure women’s equal rights, access to and opportunities for participation and leadership in the economy;

   (c) To make efforts to reduce the exposure of the most vulnerable groups to environmental degradation, pollution and disasters, thereby reducing the inequality of impact;

   (d) To promote innovation-driven development strategies in response to the global trends in science and technology and industrial transformation, and to maximize the positives of science, technology and innovation and to minimize the possible negatives;

   (e) To strengthen regional economic cooperation and integration and to enhance regional connectivity, including through the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, in support of efforts to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality;

   (f) To take further actions to promote rural vitalization, integrating urban-rural development and coordinating regional development, with a view to achieving coordinated, inclusive and interconnected development for everyone;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with other concerned United Nations bodies and relevant stakeholders, as appropriate:

   (a) To continue to conduct deeper interdisciplinary research and data analysis in order to map the groups of people who are at risk of being left behind;

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⁴⁵ ESCAP/74/42.
⁴⁶ General Assembly resolution 70/1.
(b) To continue to comprehensively analyse inequality trends;
(c) To continue to provide to members and associate members, upon request and subject to the availability of funds, technical assistance and capacity-building activities on policies and programmes that address inequality in all its forms, including on social protection and poverty and/or inequality impact assessment;
(d) To support regional cooperation on policy coordination, sharing of best practices and development experiences to address the issue of inequality in Asia and the Pacific;
(e) To continue to cooperate with members and associate members to deepen regional cooperation and support relevant initiatives to reduce extreme poverty and tackle inequality;

3. Also requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-sixth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

7th plenary meeting
16 May 2018

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

Decision 74/1
Summary of the Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report 2018

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission considered agenda item 2 and the summary of the Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report 2018 (ESCAP/74/1) prepared for the agenda item, and, inter alia, recommended the need to revise the report for the non-countries with special needs member States.

Decision 74/2
Summary of progress in the implementation of Commission resolutions

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the summary of progress in the implementation of Commission resolutions (ESCAP/74/2).

Decision 74/3
Programme performance report for the biennium 2016–2017

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the programme performance report for the biennium 2016–2017 (ESCAP/74/3).

Decision 74/4
Report of the Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development at its first session

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development at its first session (ESCAP/74/4).

Decision 74/5
Summary of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2018

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the summary of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2018 (ESCAP/74/41).
Decision 74/6  
Report of the Committee on Trade and Investment on its fifth session  

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Trade and Investment on its fifth session (ESCAP/74/5).

Decision 74/7  
Report of the fourth meeting of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation  

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the report of the fourth meeting of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation (ESCAP/74/6).

Decision 74/8  
Trade and investment in Asia and the Pacific: policy challenges and secretariat response  

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat entitled “Trade and investment in Asia and the Pacific: policy challenges and secretariat response” (ESCAP/74/8).

Decision 74/9  
Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2018  

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the information document on the Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2018 (ESCAP/74/INF/6).

Decision 74/10  
Strengthening regional efforts to improve road safety  

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on strengthening regional efforts to improve road safety (ESCAP/74/9).

Decision 74/11  
Report of the seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific  

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/74/10).

Decision 74/12  
Enhancing regional coordination of water-related activities  

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on enhancing regional coordination of water-related activities (ESCAP/74/11).

Decision 74/13  
Empowering cities to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda: mobilizing municipal finance for sustainable infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific region  

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat entitled “Empowering cities to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda: mobilizing municipal finance for sustainable infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific region” (ESCAP/74/12).
Decision 74/14
Report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization on its thirteenth session

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization on its thirteenth session (ESCAP/74/14).

Decision 74/15
Report of the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and South-East Asia

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the report of the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and South-East Asia (ESCAP/74/INF/1).

Decision 74/16
Report of the Mekong River Commission

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the report of the Mekong River Commission (ESCAP/74/INF/2).

Decision 74/17
Report on the challenges and opportunities in the implementation of regional broadband connectivity for all in Asia and the Pacific

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the report on the challenges and opportunities in the implementation of regional broadband connectivity for all in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/74/15).

Decision 74/18
Technology outlook for sustainable development

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on technology outlook for sustainable development (ESCAP/74/16).

Decision 74/19
Report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology on its thirteenth session

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology on its thirteenth session (ESCAP/74/7).

Decision 74/20
Report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development on its twelfth session

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, 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 twelfth session (ESCAP/74/18).

Decision 74/21
Emerging trends in innovation policy to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals: promoting inclusive innovation and supporting social enterprises

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat entitled “Emerging trends in innovation policy to accelerate the
achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals: promoting inclusive innovation and supporting social enterprises” (ESCAP/74/32).

Decision 74/22
Report of the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction on its fifth session

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction on its fifth session (ESCAP/74/17).

Decision 74/23
Report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management on its second session

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management on its second session (ESCAP/74/19).

Decision 74/24
Report of the Typhoon Committee

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the report of the Typhoon Committee (ESCAP/74/INF/3).

Decision 74/25
Report of the Panel on Tropical Cyclones

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the report of the Panel on Tropical Cyclones (ESCAP/74/INF/4).

Decision 74/26

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (ESCAP/74/20).

Decision 74/27
Report of the Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Chair’s summary of that Meeting

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the report of the Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (ESCAP/74/21) and the Chair’s summary of that Meeting (ESCAP/74/21/Add.1).

Decision 74/28

Decision 74/29
Key social development challenges in the Asia-Pacific region in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on key social development challenges in the Asia-Pacific region in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (ESCAP/74/23).

Decision 74/30

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the proposed composition of the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, for the period 2018–2022, as contained in the note verbale dated 24 April 2018 from the Permanent Mission of China to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific addressed to the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/74/INF/5).

Decision 74/31
Report of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on its thirteenth session

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on its thirteenth session (ESCAP/74/26).

Decision 74/32
Report of the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum (ESCAP/74/27).

Decision 74/33
Report on energy transition in Asia and the Pacific: pathways for ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat entitled “Report on energy transition in Asia and the Pacific: pathways for ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all” (ESCAP/74/28).

Decision 74/34
Report of the Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia on its twelfth session

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia on its twelfth session (ESCAP/74/29).

Decision 74/35
Subregional perspectives on inequality in Asia and the Pacific and update on subregional activities for development

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on subregional perspectives on inequality in Asia and the Pacific and update on subregional activities for development (ESCAP/74/30).
Decision 74/36
Report of the Fifth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Fifth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (ESCAP/74/31).

Decision 74/37
Report of the Second Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the report of the Second Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/74/33).

Decision 74/38
Integrated and seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific: progress and the way forward

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat entitled “Integrated and seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific: progress and the way forward” (ESCAP/74/34).

Decision 74/39
Changes to programme planning and budgeting

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on changes to programme planning and budgeting (ESCAP/74/35).

Decision 74/40
Proposed programme changes for the biennium 2018–2019

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission endorsed the proposed programme changes for the biennium 2018–2019 (ESCAP/74/36).

Decision 74/41
Report on the evaluation activities of the Commission during the biennium 2016–2017

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the report on the evaluation activities of the Commission during the biennium 2016–2017 (ESCAP/74/37).

Decision 74/42
Overview of partnerships, extrabudgetary contributions and capacity development

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on the overview of partnerships, extrabudgetary contributions and capacity development (ESCAP/74/38) and expressed its appreciation for the following contributions pledged by members and associate members for 2018:

1. Brunei Darussalam. The delegation of Brunei Darussalam announced that its Government would make the following contributions:

   SIAP $15 000
   Pacific Trust Fund $1 000
2. China. The delegation of China noted that its Government would make the following contributions:

- China-ESCAP Cooperation Programme $1,000,000
- APCTT $30,000
- CSAM $1,720,000
- SIAP $70,000
- Asia-Pacific Decade for Persons with Disabilities $10,000
- NEASPEC $50,000

In addition, the delegation of China encouraged the secretariat to apply for funding under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Sub-Fund.

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

- APCICT $20,000
- APCTT $200,000
- CSAM $15,000
- 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 $130,000 for the maintenance of the APCTT building in 2018–2019 and the equivalent of $265,700 to the Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia.

4. Japan. The delegation of Japan recognized the importance of SIAP training programmes and therefore announced its Government’s intention to provide fellowships for participants to three training programmes through the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

5. 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

6. Thailand. The delegation of Thailand announced that its Government would make contributions as follows:

- APCICT $15,000
- APCTT $15,000
- CSAM $15,000
- SIAP $23,000
- Pacific Trust Fund $1,000
- Typhoon Committee Trust Fund $12,000
- WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones $3,000
In addition, the delegation of Thailand expressed its intention to make further contributions in due course.

Decision 74/43
Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission took note of the report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (ESCAP/74/39).

Decision 74/44
Dates, venue and theme topic for the seventy-fifth session of the Commission (2019)

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018, the Commission decided that its seventy-fifth session would be held in April or May 2019; 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-fifth session would be “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality” (ESCAP/74/40).
Chapter II

Organization of the seventy-fourth session of the Commission

A. Attendance and organization of work

3. The seventy-fourth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific was held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 11 to 16 May 2018.

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

- Afghanistan
- Armenia
- Australia
- Azerbaijan
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Brunei Darussalam
- Cambodia
- China
- Democratic People’s Republic of Korea
- Fiji
- France
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran (Islamic Republic of)
- Japan
- Kazakhstan
- Kiribati
- Lao People’s Democratic Republic
- Malaysia
- Marshall Islands
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- Nauru
- Nepal
- Pakistan
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- Republic of Korea
- Russian Federation
- Samoa
- Singapore
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste
- Tonga
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- 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 Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Portugal and Switzerland attended. An observer for the Sovereign Order of Malta attended. Representatives of the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability Foundation also attended.

6. Representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization; Asia-Pacific Telecommunity; Asian and Pacific Coconut Community; Asian Development Bank; Asian Reinsurance Corporation; Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South; Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia; ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee secretariat; Mekong River Commission; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; Pacific Islands Development Forum; Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat; Shanghai Cooperation Organization; and Universal Postal Union.


9. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations: Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations; Disabled Peoples’ International; International Federation of Business and Professional Women; International Planned Parenthood Federation; LDC Watch; Organization of the Families of Asia and the Pacific; and Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women’s Association of Thailand.

10. The list of participants is available from www.unescap.org/commission/74/listOfParticipants.

11. In accordance with rule 13 of its rules of procedure, the Commission elected Ms. Hilda C. Heine (Marshall Islands) as Chair of the seventy-fourth session.

12. Following its past practice, the Commission decided to elect as Vice-Chairs the heads of delegations participating at the ministerial level:

   Mr. Mohammad Mustafa Mastoor (Afghanistan)
   Mr. Muhammad Abdul Mannan (Bangladesh)
   Mr. Ly Thuch (Cambodia)
   Mr. Zhang Jun (China)
   Mr. Faiyaz Siddiq Koya (Fiji)
   Mr. Mohammad Bagher Nobakht Haghighi (Islamic Republic of Iran)
   Mr. Kazuyuki Nakane (Japan)
   Mr. Mukhtar Tileuberdi (Kazakhstan)
   Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith (Lao People’s Democratic Republic)
   Mr. John M. Silk (Marshall Islands)
   Mr. Set Aung (Myanmar)
   Mr. Puspa Raj Kadel (Nepal)
   Mr. Sartaj Aziz (Pakistan)
   Mr. Wera Mori (Papua New Guinea)
Mr. Rimbink Pato (Papua New Guinea)
Ms. Rosemarie G. Edillon (Philippines)
Mr. Yun Kang-hyeon (Republic of Korea)
Ms. Fiame Naomi Mataafa (Samoa)
Mr. Don Pramudvinai (Thailand)
Mr. Poasi Mataele Tei (Tonga)
Mr. Batyr Bazarov (Turkmenistan)
Mr. Ralph Regenvanu (Vanuatu)
Mr. Ha Kim Ngoc (Viet Nam)

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

(a) Committee of the Whole I
Chair: Mr. Peni Suveinakama (Fiji)
Vice-Chairs: Mr. Tenzin R. Wangchuk (Bhutan)
Mr. Khomraj Koirala (Nepal)

(b) Committee of the Whole II
Chair: Ms. Anuradha Mitra (India)
Vice-Chairs: Mr. Mohammad Hadi Daryaei (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Mr. Kanya Khammoungkhoun (Lao People’s Democratic Republic)

14. The Commission also constituted the Working Group on Draft Resolutions to consider the draft resolutions submitted during the session. Ms. Saida Muna Tasneem (Bangladesh) was elected Chair and Mr. Li Hong (China) was elected Vice-Chair of the Working Group.

B. Agenda

15. The Commission adopted the following agenda:

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.

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) Energy;
(j) Subregional activities for development.

4. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.

5. Regional economic cooperation and integration in Asia and the Pacific.

6. Management issues:
   (a) Changes to programme planning and budgeting;
   (b) Programme changes for the biennium 2018–2019;
   (c) Report on the evaluation activities of the Commission during the biennium 2016–2017;
   (d) Overview of partnerships, extrabudgetary contributions and capacity development.

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


10. Other matters.

11. Adoption of the report of the Commission.

C. Opening of the session

Senior officials segment

16. The senior officials segment was opened by the Executive Secretary on 11 May 2018. The Executive Secretary delivered a welcome statement.

Ministerial segment

17. Ms. Hilda C. Heine (Marshall Islands) presided over the opening session of the ministerial segment of the seventy-fourth session, on 14 May 2018. Video messages from the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General were played. The Executive Secretary delivered welcome remarks and a policy statement. Mr. Don Pramudwinai, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Thailand, delivered the welcome address on behalf of the Government of Thailand. Statements were delivered by Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, President of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly; Mr. Taneti Maamau, President, Kiribati; Ms. Hilda C. Heine, President, Marshall Islands; and Mrs. Carrie Yuet Ngor Lam Cheng, Chief Executive, Hong Kong, China.

D. Adoption of the report of the Commission

18. The report of the Commission was adopted at its 7th plenary meeting, on 16 May 2018.
Chapter III

Work of the Commission since the seventy-third session

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

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

(a) Committees:

(i) Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction (fifth session);
(ii) Committee on Trade and Investment (fifth session);
(iii) Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development (first session);

(b) Governing councils:

(i) Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (thirteenth session);
(ii) Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (thirteenth session);
(iii) Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (twelfth session);
(iv) Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (fourteenth session);
(v) Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (thirteenth session);
(vi) Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (second session);

(c) Other intergovernmental meetings:

(i) Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (seventh session);
(ii) Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing;
(iii) Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration;
(iv) Second Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific;
(vi) Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (twelfth session);
(vii) Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation (fourth meeting);
(viii) Fifth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development;
20. The dates, bureaux and document symbols of the reports of the meetings are given in annex II. The reports reflect the discussions held, the agreements reached and the decisions taken.

B. Publications

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

C. Relations with other United Nations bodies

22. 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 biennium 2018–2019:¹

   (a) Resolution 74/1: Supporting the smooth transition of the least developed countries in Asia and the Pacific towards a sustainable graduation;
   (b) Resolution 74/2: Promotion of the regional framework for the planning, design, development and operation of dry ports of international importance;
   (c) Resolution 74/3: Improving road safety in Asia and the Pacific for sustainable transport systems;
   (d) Resolution 74/4: Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development for Asia and the Pacific, 2017;
   (e) Resolution 74/5: Transition of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture to an intergovernmental organization outside the United Nations system;
   (f) Resolution 74/6: Advancing disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific;
   (g) Resolution 74/7: Towards disability-inclusive sustainable development: implementation of the Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy;
   (h) Resolution 74/8: Accelerating the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific;
   (i) Resolution 74/9: Implementation of the outcomes of the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum;
   (j) Resolution 74/10: Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Enhancing Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration to Support the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific;
   (k) Resolution 74/11: Strengthening regional cooperation to tackle inequality in all its forms in Asia and the Pacific.

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

3. Implementation of the requests contained in resolution 74/5 would require modification of the approved programme of work for the period 2018–2019 to discontinue outputs attributed to the activities of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture, under subprogramme 4 (Environment and development), as follows:

   (a) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: Parliamentary documentation: Reports of the Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (2018, 2019) (2);
   (b) Assistance to intergovernmental bodies and/or United Nations representatives/rapporteurs under their established mandates: Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (2018, 2019) (2);

¹ See General Assembly resolution 72/263 A–C.
(c) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits:
   (i) Information services and database on sustainable agriculture for poverty reduction (2);
   (ii) *Palawija Forum* (triannual) (6);

(d) Technical materials:
   (i) Background papers and modules on technological innovations on sustainable agriculture for rural development (2);
   (ii) Policy briefs and working documents: regional review of the state of sustainable agriculture policy development, implementation and measurement (2);

(e) Training courses, seminars and workshops: Workshop on measuring sustainable agriculture for food security and poverty alleviation (1);

(f) Field projects: Capacity-building projects for Member States on:
   (i) Promoting balanced integration of socioeconomic and environmental sustainability in agriculture and rural development (1);
   (ii) Strengthening policy and technological innovations for sustainable agriculture (1).
# Annex II

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subsidiary bodies and officers</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Document symbol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Committees

#### I. Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction

- **Chair**: Lieutenant General Omar Mahmood Hayat (Pakistan)
- **Vice-Chairs**: Lieutenant Colonel Luvsansharav Ulziibayar (Mongolia), Ms. Shamima Haque (Bangladesh), Mr. Yin Benjie (China)
- **Rapporteur**: Ms. Sofeenaz Hassan (Maldives)

**Fifth session**

Bangkok

10–12 October 2017

ESCAP/74/17

#### II. Committee on Trade and Investment

- **Chair**: Mr. Swarnim Waglé (Nepal)
- **Vice-Chairs**: Mr. Arjuna Sujeewa Senasinghe (Sri Lanka), Mr. Enkhbold Vorshilov (Mongolia)

**Fifth session**

Bangkok

31 October–2 November 2017

ESCAP/74/5

#### III. Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development

- **Chair**: Ms. Rosemarie G. Edillon (Philippines)
- **Vice-Chairs**: Mr. Ly Thuch (Cambodia), Mr. Gaetan Pikioune (Vanuatu), Mr. Ahmad Jawad Osmani (Afghanistan), Mr. Khamlien Pholsena (Lao People’s Democratic Republic)
- **Rapporteur**: Mr. Nim Dorji (Bhutan)

**First session**

Bangkok

6–8 December 2017

ESCAP/74/4

### Governing councils of regional institutions

#### I. Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology

- **Chair**: Mr. Edgar I. Garcia (Philippines)
- **Vice-Chair**: Mr. W.J.L.S. Fernando (Sri Lanka)

**Thirteenth session**

Manila

28–30 November 2017

ESCAP/74/7
### Subsidiary bodies and officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>II. Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific</th>
<th>Thirteenth session</th>
<th>ESCAP/74/26</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair Ms. Josie Perez (Philippines)</td>
<td>Chiba, Japan</td>
<td>4–5 December 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Chair Mr. Naoki Makita (Japan)</td>
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<tr>
<th>III. Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development</th>
<th>Twelfth session</th>
<th>ESCAP/74/18</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair Mr. Meas Po (Cambodia)</td>
<td>Manila</td>
<td>7 December 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Chair Mr. Sanjay Goel (India)</td>
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<tr>
<th>IV. Governing Council of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture</th>
<th>Fourteenth session</th>
<th>ESCAP/74/13</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair Mr. Sahat Pasaribu (Indonesia)</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
<td>13 December 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Chairs Mr. Tapsir bin Serin (Malaysia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Rasnayaka M. Herath (Sri Lanka)</td>
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<tr>
<th>V. Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization</th>
<th>Thirteenth session</th>
<th>ESCAP/74/14</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair Mr. Li Hong (China)</td>
<td>Kathmandu</td>
<td>13 December 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Chair Ms. Tam Thi Dinh (Viet Nam)</td>
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<tr>
<th>VI. Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management</th>
<th>Second session</th>
<th>ESCAP/74/19</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair Mr. Seyed Hamid Pourmohammadi Gelsefidi (Islamic Republic of Iran)</td>
<td>Tehran</td>
<td>31 January 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Chair Brigadier Mukhtar Ahmed (Pakistan)</td>
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</table>

### Other intergovernmental meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific</th>
<th>Seventh session</th>
<th>ESCAP/74/10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair Mr. Masagos Zulkifli (Singapore)</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
<td>5–8 September 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-Chairs Mr. Yeshey Dorji (Bhutan)</td>
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<td>Ms. Lorna Eden (Fiji)</td>
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<tr>
<th>II. Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing</th>
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<th>ESCAP/74/20</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair Mr. Khandoker Atiar Rohman (Bangladesh)</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
<td>12–14 September 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Chairs Ms. Naila Verdiyeva (Azerbaijan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Hyangjea Woo (Republic of Korea)</td>
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</table>
### III. Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

**Session**
Bangkok

**Document symbol**
ESCAP/74/21

**Chair**
Ms. Sarah Lou Arriola (Philippines)

**Vice-Chairs**
- Mr. Abdul Latheef Mohamed (Maldives)
- Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque (Bangladesh)
- Mr. Gagik Yeganyan (Armenia)

### IV. Second Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific

**Session**
Bangkok

**Document symbol**
ESCAP/74/33

**Senior officials segment**

**Chair**
Mr. Shahidul Islam (Bangladesh)

**Vice-Chairs**
- Mr. Abdul Haleem Abdul Ghafoor (Maldives)
- Mr. Tun-Tun Naing (Myanmar)
- Mr. Ashot Kocharian (Armenia)

**Ministerial segment**

**Chair**
Mr. Swarnim Waglé (Nepal)

**Vice-Chairs**
- Mr. Bounchanh Sinthavong (Lao People’s Democratic Republic)
- Mr. Abdul Haleem Abdul Ghafoor (Maldives)
- Mr. Epa Tuioti (Samoa)
- Mr. Harsha de Silva (Sri Lanka)
- Mr. Ilyosiddin Kamoliddinzoda (Tajikistan)
- Mr. Aurélio Guterres (Timor-Leste)
- Mr. Ezizgeldi Annamuhammedov (Turkmenistan)
- Mr. Namoliki S. Neemia (Tuvalu)
- Mr. Le Dinh Tho (Viet Nam)


**Session**
Beijing

**Document symbol**
ESCAP/74/22

**Senior officials segment**

**Chair**
Ms. Mereseini Vuniwaqa (Fiji)

**Vice-Chairs**
- Ms. Fatima Mustafa (Singapore)
- Mr. Md. Golam Rabbani (Bangladesh)

**Ministerial segment**

**Chair**
Ms. Haidi Zhang (China)

**Vice-Chairs**
- Ms. Saima Wazed Hossain (Bangladesh)
- Mr. Vong Sauth (Cambodia)
- Ms. Mereseini Vuniwaqa (Fiji)
- Mr. Thaawarchand Gehlot (India)
- Mr. Kourabi Nenem (Kiribati)
- Mr. Khampheng Saysompheng (Lao People’s Democratic Republic)
- Mr. Win Myat Aye (Myanmar)
- Mr. Young-ho Lee (Republic of Korea)
- Ms. Faimalotoa Kika Stowers (Samoa)
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<tr>
<th>Subsidiary bodies and officers</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Document symbol</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>VI. Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia</strong></td>
<td>Twelfth session Dushanbe 5–6 December 2017</td>
<td>ESCAP/74/29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Mr. Tojiddin Jurazoda (Tajikistan)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VII. Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation</strong></td>
<td>Fourth meeting Bangkok 22–23 March 2018</td>
<td>ESCAP/74/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Mr. Yusuf Riza (Maldives)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Chairs</td>
<td>Ms. Rama Dewan (Bangladesh)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr. Muwasiq Noor (Indonesia)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VIII. Fifth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development</strong></td>
<td>Bangkok 28–30 March 2018</td>
<td>ESCAP/74/31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-Chairs</td>
<td>Mr. Levan Davitashvili (Georgia)</td>
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<td>Mr. Rajiv Kumar (India)</td>
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<td>Vice-Chairs</td>
<td>Mr. Thinley Namgyel (Bhutan)</td>
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<td>Mr. George Sharvashidze (Georgia)</td>
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<td>Mr. David Ranibok Adeang (Nauru)</td>
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<td>Mr. Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary (Pakistan)</td>
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<td>Mr. Alexander Bedritsky (Russian Federation)</td>
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<td>Ms. Faimalotoa Kika Iemaima Stowers (Samoa)</td>
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<td>Mr. Tojiddin Jurazoda (Tajikistan)</td>
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<td>Mr. Ezizgeldi Annamuhammedov (Turkmenistan)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IX. Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum</strong></td>
<td>Bangkok 3–5 April 2018</td>
<td>ESCAP/74/27</td>
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<td><strong>Senior officials segment</strong></td>
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<td>Chair</td>
<td>Mr. Vijay Nath (Fiji)</td>
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<td>Vice-Chairs</td>
<td>Mr. Hitoshi Kozaki (Japan)</td>
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<td>Mr. Talyat Aliev (Russian Federation)</td>
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<td><strong>Ministerial segment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Mr. Awais Ahmad Leghari (Pakistan)</td>
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<td>Vice-Chairs</td>
<td>Mr. Ali Ahmad Osmani (Afghanistan)</td>
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<td>Mr. Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury (Bangladesh)</td>
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<td>Mr. Fanrong Li (China)</td>
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<td>Mr. Vijay Nath (Fiji)</td>
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<td>Mr. Romeo Mikautadze (Georgia)</td>
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<td>Mr. Ruateki Tekaiara (Kiribati)</td>
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<td>Mr. Sinava Souphanouvong (Lao People’s Democratic Republic)</td>
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<td>Mr. Davaasuren Tserenpil (Mongolia)</td>
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<td>Mr. Win Khaing (Myanmar)</td>
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<td>Mr. Barsha Man Pun (Nepal)</td>
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<td>Mr. Kang-hyeon Yun (Republic of Korea)</td>
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<td>Mr. Kirill Molodtsov (Russian Federation)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr. Siri Jirapongphan (Thailand)</td>
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Annex III

Publications and documents issued by the Commission

A. Publications issued since the seventy-third session

Executive direction and management


What’s Ahead @ ESCAP.”

Subprogramme 1
Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development


Asia-Pacific Development Journal:
Vol. 24, No. 1, June 2017. ST/ESCAP/2797 (Sales No. E.17.II.F.21).
Vol. 24, No. 2, December 2017. ST/ESCAP/2821 (Sales No. E.18.II.F.9).

The Belt and Road Initiative and the Role of ESCAP. ST/ESCAP/2804.

Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2017: Year-end Update. ST/ESCAP/2808.

Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2018: Mobilizing Finance for Sustained, Inclusive and Sustainable Growth. ST/ESCAP/2829 (Sales No. E.18.II.F.16).

Enhancing Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration for Asia and the Pacific. ST/ESCAP/2781 (Sales No. E.18.II.F.5).


Mobilizing Finance for Sustained, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth. ST/ESCAP/2833.

MPFD Policy Briefs:**

No. 62, April 2018: “What explains divergent investment performances in Asia-Pacific?”.

No. 63, April 2018: “Technology progress: seize the opportunities for the Asia-Pacific region”.

No. 64, April 2018: “Securing financial stability through macroprudential measures”.

No. 65, April 2018: “Making effective use of fiscal space for sustainable development”.

No. 66, April 2018: “Universal basic income”.

No. 67, April 2018: “Leveraging technology in fiscal management”.

No. 68, April 2018: “Improving tax administration”.

No. 69, April 2018: “Expanding the tax base”.

No. 70, April 2018: “Prudent sovereign borrowing from financial markets”.

* 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.
No. 71, April 2018: “Leveraging private finance for sustainable development”.

No. 72, April 2018: “Enhancing the policy environment for public-private partnerships”.

No. 73, April 2018: “Potential of financial technology in East and North-East Asia”.

No. 74, April 2018: “Developing local currency bond markets in South-East Asia”.

No. 75, April 2018: “Managing fiscal volatility in the Pacific”.

No. 76, April 2018: “Reforming tax systems in South and South-West Asia”.

No. 77, April 2018: “Access of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to finance in North and Central Asia”.

No. 78, May 2018: “The nexus between peace and sustainable development in countries with special needs”.

No. 79, May 2018: “Natural resource management for conflict risk mitigation”.

No. 80, May 2018: “Financing for peace in countries with special needs”.

**MPFD Working Papers:**

WP/18/01, May 2018: “Water security in Central Asia and the Caucasus – a key to peace and sustainable development”.

WP/18/02, May 2018: “Sustainable development and conflict prevention in the Pacific”.

WP/18/03, May 2018: “How to regulate cryptocurrencies? Considerations from Asia and the Pacific”.

WP/18/04, May 2018: “Tapping capital markets and institutional investors for infrastructure development”.

WP/18/05, May 2018: “Public-private partnerships for cross-border infrastructure development”.

**Tax Policy for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.** ST/ESCAP/2806 (Sales No. E.18.II.F.7).

**Taxing for Shared Prosperity: Policy Options for the Asia-Pacific Region.**

**Subprogramme 2**

**Trade and investment**


“A handbook on safeguard rules for least developed countries”.**

*Analytical Approaches to Evaluating Preferential Trade Agreements.* ST/ESCAP/2788.

**APTIAD Briefing Notes:**

No. 9, December 2017: “An update on the preferential trade agreements of Asia-Pacific economies”.

“Artificial intelligence in Asia and the Pacific”.**

**ARTNeT Newsletter:**

April 2017.

---

1 Including the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT).
May 2017.
June 2017.
August 2017.
September 2017.
October 2017.
November 2017.
December 2017.
January 2018.
February 2018.
March 2018.
April 2018.

**ARTNeT Policy Briefs:**

No. 50, July 2017: “India-Sri Lanka free trade agreement: Sri Lanka reaping the benefits from preferential trade”.

No. 51, January 2018: “Can the Sustainable Development Goals offer a new lease on life for the World Trade Organization?”.

No. 52, February 2018: “United States and the fight against climate change: a greater role for the US EXIM Bank?”.

No. 53, March 2018: “Globalization, inclusion, and e-commerce: agenda for SMEs”.

**ARTNeT Working Papers:**

No. 167, June 2017: “Join hands or walk alone? Evidence on lobbying for trade policy in India”.

No. 168, June 2017: “International trade, internet governance and the shaping of the digital economy”.

No. 169, July 2017: “Myanmar’s engagement in regional integration: status and way forward”.

No. 170, October 2017: “International trade law perspectives on paperless trade and inclusive digital trade”.

No. 171, October 2017: “On the economic impact of FDI and trade liberalization in the Asia-Pacific region: a structural quantitative analysis”.

No. 172, November 2017: “Trade and trade facilitation along the Belt and Road Initiative corridors”.

No. 173, December 2017: “Sustainable development impact of trade and investment liberalization in Asia and the Pacific”.

No. 174, January 2018: “Impact of implementation of digital trade facilitation on trade costs”.

No. 175, January 2018: “Export restrictions and policy space for sustainable development: lessons from trends in the regulation of export restrictions (2012–2016)”.

No. 176, February 2018: “Is world trade becoming more regionalised?”.

No. 177, February 2018: “South-South cooperation in the era of global value chains: what can China offer?”.
No. 178, February 2018: “WTO+ commitments on services in Asian PTAs: the role of regulatory homogeneity and goods trade complementarity.”


“ASEAN social enterprise structuring guide”.

Asia-Pacific Tech Monitor (APCTT):

Vol. 33, No. 4, October–December 2016: “Digital technology and economy fostering inclusive development”.

Vol. 34, No. 1, January–March 2017: “Sustainable energy technologies challenges and opportunities for the Asia-Pacific”.

Vol. 34, No. 2, April–June 2017: “Science, technology and innovation for achieving SDGs in the Asia-Pacific”.

Vol. 34, No. 3, July–September 2017: “Innovation, technology transfer and management for safe and sustainable water”.

Vol. 34, No. 4, October–December 2017: “Big data innovation for sustainable development and humanitarian action”.

Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Agreements Database.**


Asia-Pacific Trade Indicators Portal.**

“Cross-border single window interoperability: a managerial guide”.**

“Digital and virtual currencies for sustainable development”.**

ESCAP-World Bank Trade Cost Database.**

ESCAP Trade Facilitation Newsletters:**


ESCAP Trade Insights:**

No. 21, January 2018: “Is trade policy being effectively used to curb drinking and smoking? Evidence from ASEAN”.

No. 22, April 2018: “Trade war: two elephants in a porcelain shop”.

Expert Database (UNNExT).**


Handbook on Policies, Promotion and Facilitation of Foreign Direct Investment for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific. ST/ESCAP/2786.


NTMs, Rules of Origin and Tariff Concessions Database (Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement).**

“Reaching the farthest first: the state of social enterprise in the Philippines”.

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<td>Inequality in Asia and the Pacific in the era of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable</td>
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**Information documents**

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<td>Report of the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and</td>
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<td>Republic of China to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia</td>
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<td>and the Pacific addressed to the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific</td>
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**Conference room paper**

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