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## Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

### Seventy-eighth session

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda\*

### Review of the conference structure of the Commission pursuant to resolution 73/1

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### Note by the secretariat

#### *Summary*

In its resolution 73/1, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific decided to review its conference structure at its seventy-eighth session, in 2022, with a midpoint review at its seventy-fifth session, in 2019, and requested the Executive Secretary to submit a report in both cases, with a focus on the programme areas of the Commission, to serve as a basis for the review.

The present document contains recommendations concerning the conference structure of the Commission pertaining to the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, and in particular the terms of reference of the committees, the areas to be mainstreamed into their work and the list of the primary issues to be addressed by each of them.

The recommendations in the present document reflect the views expressed by member States in the course of a series of informal consultations convened between November 2021 and March 2022.

The Commission is invited to consider the recommendations contained in the present document and provide guidance on any changes to the conference structure that may be required.

## I. Background and introduction

1. The current conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) was established by the Commission with the adoption of resolution 64/1 at its sixty-fourth session, held in April 2008.

2. Subsequently, further revisions were implemented through resolution 71/1 adopted in May 2015, in which the Commission established the Committee on Energy and reconstituted the Committees on Information and Communications Technology and Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction

\* ESCAP/78/L.1/Rev.1.

and Inclusive Development, as the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation and the Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development, respectively.

3. Pursuant to resolution 73/1 adopted in May 2017, the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development was included as part of the subsidiary structure of the Commission and the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management established as one of the regional institutions operating under the auspices of the Commission. In the same resolution, the Commission also decided to conduct a review of its conference structure at its seventy-eighth session, in 2022, following a midpoint review conducted at its seventy-fifth session, in 2019, and requested the Executive Secretary to submit a report in both cases, with a focus on the programme areas of the Commission, which would serve as a basis for that review.

4. At the midpoint review in 2019, the Commission, in its decision 75/17, called for the establishment of an open-ended working group to further consider issues pertinent to the review of the conference structure of the Commission, as provided for by its resolutions 71/1 and 73/1, and requested the working group to report to the Commission at its seventy-sixth session on its findings and recommendations.<sup>1</sup>

5. Having met in late 2019 and early 2020, the open-ended working group discussed the linkages between the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, as well as updates to the issues to be addressed by the Committees. Its discussions, however, were curtailed by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the working group recommended that further discussions on the review of the conference structure of the Commission take place in the context of the final review at the seventy-eighth session of the Commission, in 2022.

6. A series of informal consultations among member States were organized between November 2021 and March 2022, to hear their views on the review of the conference structure of the Commission and to come to a common understanding on what should be updated. A total of six sessions were held.<sup>2</sup> Ms. Millicent Cruz-Paredes, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of the Philippines to ESCAP, and Ms. Julia Feeney, Minister and Deputy Head of Mission and Permanent Representative of Australia to ESCAP, acted as Chair and Vice-Chair of the consultations.

7. The present document contains recommendations concerning the conference structure of the Commission pertaining to its subsidiary bodies and in particular the terms of reference of the committees, the areas to be mainstreamed into their work and the list of the primary issues to be addressed by each. These recommendations reflect the views expressed by member States in the course of the informal consultations.

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 19 (E/2019/39-ESCAP/75/35), chap. I, sect. B.*

<sup>2</sup> Consultations were held on 9 and 23 November and 7 December 2021 and 27 January, 16 February and 4 March 2022.

## II. Recommendations concerning the conference structure of the Commission

8. The conference structure of the Commission details what the subsidiary bodies of the Commission are.<sup>3</sup> It also includes information on the organizational aspects of the session, such as its length and certain recurrent agenda items.

9. The Commission is invited to review its conference structure to ensure its continued relevance, in particular in terms of alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and post-COVID-19 recovery priorities, as well as to reflect resolutions and decisions adopted since the last review in 2017.

10. In this connection, the following issues are put forth for consideration by the member States.

### A. Subsidiary bodies of the Commission

#### 1. Update to the issues to be addressed by the committees

11. The subsidiary structure of the Commission includes the following nine committees:

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

12. The conference structure spells out the terms of reference of the committees,<sup>4</sup> as well as the areas to be mainstreamed into the work of all committees.<sup>5</sup> It also provides a list of the primary issues to be addressed by each of the committees.<sup>6</sup> With the exception of the Committee on Energy, these were formulated prior to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda.

13. As it is midway through the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission may wish to review and update the issues to be addressed by the committees, as well as those to be mainstreamed in all committees, to ensure their alignment with the attainment

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<sup>3</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 19 (E/2017/39-E/ESCAP/73/40), annex II.*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 12 and 13.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 14.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, appendix I.

of the Sustainable Development Goals, and with the goal of ensuring a sustainable and sustained recovery from the pandemic.

14. A proposal in this regard is contained in the annex to the present document. The aim of the proposal is to better align the issues to be addressed by the committees with the 2030 Agenda and post-COVID-19 reality and reflect resolutions and decisions of the Commission since the issues were last updated.

## **2. Update to the list of regional institutions under the auspices of the Commission to reflect the transition of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture to an organization outside of the United Nations system**

15. The conference structure also provides a list of the regional institutions under the auspices of the Commission, which currently include the following institutions:

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

16. In its resolution 74/5, the Commission decided that the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture would transition to an organization outside of the United Nations system and requested the Executive Secretary to reflect changes emanating from the resolution in her report to the Commission at its seventy-fifth session, in 2019, on the midpoint review of the conference structure.

17. Given that the Centre is no longer a subsidiary body of the Commission, references to the Centre shall be removed from the conference structure of the Commission.

## **B. Organization of the Commission session**

### **1. Reposition the Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries**

18. The conference structure of the Commission provides for the Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries to be held for a maximum of one day during the senior officials segment, holding a status commensurate with the Committees of the Whole.

19. Considering that more than half of the Commission membership falls under at least one of the categories of countries of focus of the Special Body, its deliberations may be better placed in the context of the ministerial segment of the Commission sessions. The Commission may, therefore, wish to remove reference to the senior officials segment.

20. Moreover, considering that not all small island developing States that are members of ESCAP are in the Pacific, the Commission may wish to rename the Special Body as the Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Small Island Developing States.

## **2. Rotational system for the Chair**

21. In its decision 75/16, the Commission decided, as a general principle and without prejudice to rule 13 of its rules of procedure, that its Chair shall rotate among the five subregions of the Commission.<sup>7</sup>

22. This decision shall be reflected in the conference structure of the Commission.

## **III. Issues for consideration by the Commission**

23. The Commission is invited to consider the recommendations contained in the present document and provide guidance on any changes to the conference structure that may be required. In this regard, the Commission may wish to consider a resolution to update the conference structure in accordance with the recommendations of the present document.

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<sup>7</sup> The five subregions of the Commission, as outlined in document A/62/708, are East and North-East Asia; North and Central Asia; South and South-West Asia; South-East Asia; and the Pacific.

# Annex

## Proposed updates to the generic terms of reference and issues to be addressed by the committees subsidiary to the Commission

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Current terms of reference</i>	<i>Proposed updates</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
<b>All Committees (generic terms of reference)</b>	<p>12. Within their respective areas of purview, the committees shall:</p> <p>(a) Review and analyse regional trends;</p> <p>(b) Identify, in consultation with member States, their priorities and emerging issues, and consult on regional approaches, taking into consideration subregional aspects;</p> <p>(c) Promote regional dialogue, including subregional synergies, and an exchange of experiences on policies and programmes;</p> <p>(d) Consider common regional positions as inputs to global processes and promote regional follow-up to their outcomes;</p> <p>(e) Propose issues for consideration by the Commission as the basis for possible resolutions;</p> <p>(f) Monitor the implementation of Commission resolutions;</p> <p>(g) Promote a collaborative approach to addressing the development challenges of the region, where appropriate, between Governments and civil society, the private sector, as well as the United Nations and other international organizations at the regional and subregional levels.</p>	<p>13. Within their respective areas of purview, the committees shall:</p> <p>(a) Review and analyse regional trends in the context of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;</p> <p>(b) Identify, in consultation with member States, their priorities and emerging issues for resilient, inclusive and sustainable development, and consult on regional approaches, taking into consideration subregional aspects;</p> <p>(c) Promote regional, and as appropriate, interregional, dialogue, including subregional synergies, and an exchange of experiences on policies and programmes;</p> <p>(d) Consider common regional positions as inputs to global processes and promote regional follow-up to their outcomes;</p> <p>(e) Propose issues for consideration by the Commission as the basis for possible resolutions;</p> <p>(f) Monitor the implementation of Commission resolutions;</p> <p>(g) Promote a collaborative approach to addressing the development challenges of the region, where appropriate, between Governments and civil society, the private sector, as well as the United Nations and other international organizations at the regional and subregional levels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2030 Agenda is the main compass guiding the United Nations' work, including the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and may be explicitly referred to.</li> <li>• Recovery from large shocks (e.g., the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic) as a cross-cutting issue.</li> <li>• Science, technology and innovation, and in particular digital technologies as a cross-cutting issue. With the accelerated digital transformation that has occurred during the pandemic impacting every facet of society and economy, including it here it would reflect the real-world context in which ESCAP Divisions are working.</li> </ul>

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Current terms of reference</i>	<i>Proposed updates</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
	<p>13. Further, within their respective areas of purview, the committees shall provide the secretariat, including its regional institutions, with guidance in reviewing the proposed strategic framework and programme of work.</p> <p>14. The following areas shall be mainstreamed into the work of all committees:</p> <p>(a) Implementation and monitoring the achievement of the relevant internationally agreed development goals;</p> <p>(b) Poverty reduction and balanced integration of the three pillars of sustainable development;</p> <p>(c) Gender equality;</p> <p>(d) The priority needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.</p>	<p>14. Further, within their respective areas of purview, the committees shall provide the secretariat, including its regional institutions, with guidance in reviewing the proposed strategic framework and programme of work.</p> <p>15. The following areas shall be mainstreamed into the work of all committees:</p> <p>(a) Implementation and monitoring of progress in internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals, and a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;</p> <p>(b) Poverty reduction and sustained recovery from large shocks for a more equitable Asia and the Pacific;</p> <p>(c) Gender equality;</p> <p>(d) The priority needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States;</p> <p>(e) Science, technology and innovation, and in particular digital technology for safe and inclusive digital transformation.</p>	

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Current terms of reference</i>	<i>Proposed updates</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
<b>Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development</b>	<p>Appendix I</p> <p>1. (a) Experiences and practices in formulating and implementing macroeconomic policies to reduce poverty and inequalities, as well as to achieve sustainable and inclusive development;</p> <p>(b) Regional economic development policies and options;</p> <p>(c) Financing for development, including enhancing domestic fiscal resources; increasing social impact investment by the private sector; and accessing regional financing vehicles, arrangements and funds;</p> <p>(d) Experiences and practices in developing regulations and institutions to deepen and strengthen the region's capital markets;</p> <p>(e) Review of pro-poor economic growth policies, particularly in countries with special needs;</p> <p>(f) Policy options and programmes for reducing rural poverty, including those with a gender dimension, through the development of sustainable agriculture.</p>	<p>Appendix I</p> <p>1. (a) Macroeconomic policies to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and poverty reduction;</p> <p>(b) Regional cooperation on macroeconomic and financing for development issues, and developing common regional positions as inputs to global processes while ensuring regional follow-up to their outcomes;</p> <p>(c) Financing for development, including financing strategies to achieve Sustainable Development Goals such as domestic fiscal resources, innovative, sustainable and digital financing instruments and mechanisms, and capital market development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The language is brought in line with the outcomes of previous Committee sessions.</li> <li>• The need to support aspects of regional economic cooperation that pertain to economic and financial issues are captured in the outcomes of the First and Second Ministerial Conferences on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific</li> <li>• Capital markets [formerly subparagraph (d)] now incorporated into subparagraph (c).</li> <li>• Issues relevant to countries with special needs [formerly subparagraph (e)], including those related to pro-poor economic growth and economic policies and financing for development, are mainstreamed across all Committees. Hence, specific reference to countries with special needs is removed.</li> <li>• The reference to the issue of rural poverty and sustainable agriculture [formerly subparagraph (f)] has been removed as the Centre for the Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture has transitioned outside of ESCAP and the work of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization is under the Committee on Environment and Development.</li> </ul>



<i>Committee</i>	<i>Current terms of reference</i>	<i>Proposed updates</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
<b>Committee on Trade and Investment</b>	<p>2. (a) Regional cooperative mechanisms and agreements in trade and investment, including the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement;</p> <p>(b) Policy options on trade, investment, and small- and medium-sized enterprise development;</p> <p>(c) Policy options and frameworks on trade facilitation.</p>	<p>Rename as the <b>Committee on Trade, Investment, Enterprise and Business Innovation</b></p> <p>2. (a) International trade and investment as an engine for development, including regional cooperative mechanisms and agreements on trade and trade facilitation, such as the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement and the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific;</p> <p>(b) Domestic and international public-private partnerships, business partnerships, investment, and small and medium-sized enterprise development and finance;</p> <p>(c) Innovation, including the digital economy, inclusive business, impact investing, and innovation policies and regulations;</p> <p>(d) Development, transfer, adaptation and application of technologies relevant to the region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The name of the Committee broadened to reflect the work of the subprogramme and the breadth of the issues brought to the Committee for its consideration.</li> <li>• The issues are divided into three clusters reflecting the work of the sections within the Division.</li> <li>• Private sector added to Committee to enable linkage with the ESCAP Sustainable Business Network and other private sector innovation work.</li> <li>• Language aligned with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development: “international trade as an engine for development” and “domestic and international private business and finance”.</li> <li>• New text [subparagraph (d)] to reflect the work of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology.</li> </ul>

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Current terms of reference</i>	<i>Proposed updates</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
<b>Committee on Transport</b>	<p>3. (a) Transport policy options and programmes, including the evolving post-2015 development agenda, and regional agreements and mandates;</p> <p>(b) The Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway and other initiatives, including inter-island shipping and maritime transport promoted by the Commission for planning and financing integrated intermodal transport and logistics systems;</p> <p>(c) Measures to improve road safety and the efficiency of transport operations and logistics;</p> <p>(d) Support for the accession and implementation of international transport agreements;</p> <p>(e) Harmonization of transport standards and documents;</p> <p>(f) Applications of new transport technologies, including intelligent transport systems;</p> <p>(g) Private sector participation for financing and maintaining infrastructure, including through public-private partnerships.</p>	<p>3. (a) Efficient and resilient transport, logistics, mobility and connectivity, including through international transport agreements such as Intergovernmental Agreements on the Asian Highway Network, Trans-Asian Railway Network and Dry Ports, and shipping and maritime transport;</p> <p>(b) Sustainable, efficient and environmentally friendly transport systems and services, as well as policies and strategies, sustainable urban mobility, and application of smart transport technologies;</p> <p>(c) Safe and inclusive transport and mobility, including policies and strategies for improving road safety, gender-responsive transport and enhancing inclusiveness and universal accessibility of transport systems;</p> <p>(d) Harmonization of transport standards and documents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alignment with the new Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific (2022–2026), adopted at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Transport in December 2021.</li> </ul>

<b>Committee on Environment and Development</b>	<p>4. (a) Policies and strategies for enhancing environmental sustainability of economic and social development, including climate change mitigation and adaptation;</p> <p>(b) Policies and strategies for sustainable management of natural resources including water;</p> <p>(c) Policies and strategies for promoting inclusive and sustainable urban development.</p>	<p>4. (a) Enhancing environmental sustainability of development in a holistic and integrated manner, including through, but not limited to, climate action, air pollution reduction, sustainable use of the oceans and seas, and sustainable management of water resources;</p> <p>(b) Promoting the sustainable management of natural resources;</p> <p>(c) Promoting inclusive and sustainable urban development;</p> <p>(d) Promoting sustainable production and consumption, including through sustainable agricultural mechanization and technology transfer for the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee is guided by Commission resolution 74/4 on the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development for Asia and the Pacific, 2017.</li> <li>• Text amended to reflect Commission resolutions on climate change, oceans and air pollution as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 72/8: fostering regional cooperation and partnerships to respond to the climate change challenge in the Asia-Pacific region</li> <li>– 72/9: regional cooperation to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific</li> <li>– 76/1: strengthening cooperation to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific</li> <li>– 73/5: strengthening Asia-Pacific's support for the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14</li> <li>– 75/4: strengthening regional cooperation to tackle air pollution challenges in Asia and the Pacific</li> <li>– 70/12: strengthening efforts on human settlements and sustainable urban development for the Asia-Pacific region</li> <li>– General Assembly resolution 71/256 on the New Urban Agenda</li> </ul> </li> <li>• New text [subparagraph (d)] to reflect the work of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization.</li> </ul>
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<i>Committee</i>	<i>Current terms of reference</i>	<i>Proposed updates</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
<b>Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation</b>	<p>5. (a) Integration of information and communications technology-related issues in development policies, plans and programmes;</p> <p>(b) Transfer and application of information and communications technology at the regional and subregional levels;</p> <p>(c) Information and communications technology, including space applications, for disaster risk reduction;</p> <p>(d) Development of human and institutional capacity in the use of information and communications technology and in the use of science and technology for innovation;</p> <p>(e) Policy options and strategies for enhancing cooperation on the generation of and access to science, technology and innovation for sustainable development, including regional mechanisms for technology transfer;</p> <p>(f) Mainstreaming of science, technology and innovation issues in development policies, strategies and plans.</p>	<p>5. (a) Access to information and communications technology and digital technology and innovation including through universal internet connectivity and a digital society, digital transformation and inclusion including through the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative;</p> <p>(b) Application of space technology and integrated geospatial information for sustainable development;</p> <p>(c) Development of human skills and institutional capacity in the use of information and communications technology and digital technology applications for the digital age in support of sustainable development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Text in subparagraph (a) amended to reflect Commission resolutions on the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative (resolutions 75/7, 73/6, and 71/10).</li> <li>Text in subparagraph (b) amended to reflect resolution 75/6: implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030).</li> <li>New text in subparagraph (c) to reflect the work of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development.</li> </ul>
<b>Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction</b>	<p>6. (a) Policy options and strategies on multi-hazard disaster risk reduction and mitigation;</p> <p>(b) Regional cooperation mechanisms for disaster risk management, including space and other technical support systems;</p> <p>(c) Multi-hazard assessment, preparedness, early warning and response to disaster risks.</p>	<p>6. (a) Regional cooperation for multi-hazard disaster risk reduction and mitigation, climate adaptation, and resilience;</p> <p>(b) Regional cooperation mechanisms for strengthening disaster risk management and resilience building;</p> <p>(c) Integrated multi-hazard risk assessment, preparedness, early warning and response to disaster risks, including mitigating cascading risks related to biological and other natural hazards, including through the use of innovative technology tools;</p> <p>(d) Disaster information management and multi-hazard early warning, including for sand and dust storms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disaster mitigation work is reviewed through the Committees on Energy and on Environment and Development.</li> <li>Alignment with the outcomes of the seventh session of the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction, in 2021.</li> <li>New text in subparagraph (d) to reflect the work of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management.</li> </ul>

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Current terms of reference</i>	<i>Proposed updates</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
<b>Committee on Social Development</b>	<p>7. (a) Review the regional implementation of the internationally agreed goals and commitments on social development;</p> <p>(b) Assess population and development trends, including international migration and its impact on development;</p> <p>(c) Address issues of inequality and promote the social inclusion of youth, persons with disabilities, older persons and other vulnerable social groups;</p> <p>(d) Promote gender equality and women's empowerment;</p> <p>(e) Strengthen social protection and health systems.</p>	<p>7. (a) Review the regional implementation of the internationally agreed goals and commitments on social development;</p> <p>(b) Assess population and development trends, including international migration and population ageing and their impacts on development;</p> <p>(c) Address issues of inequality and strengthen social protection and health systems;</p> <p>(d) Promote gender equality and women's empowerment;</p> <p>(e) Promote the social inclusion of older persons, persons with disabilities, and other people in vulnerable situations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor editorial changes to improve coherence.</li> </ul>
<b>Committee on Statistics</b>	<p>8. (a) Ensure that by 2020 all countries in the region have the capability to provide a basic range of population, economic, social and environmental statistics;</p> <p>(b) Create a more adaptive and cost-effective information management environment for national statistical offices through stronger collaboration.</p>	<p>8. (a) Enable and empower national statistical systems to lead development of and to deliver innovative, trusted and timely products and services, recognizing the importance of urgent and evolving statistical requirements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while bearing in mind the action areas of the document entitled "Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: a collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community".</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2016, the Committee on Statistics endorsed the collective vision and framework for action for advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda. This change aligns the issues which the Committee on Statistics addresses with commitments by member States in the collective vision and framework for action.</li> </ul>

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Current terms of reference</i>	<i>Proposed updates</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
<b>Committee on Energy</b>	<p>9. (a) Policy options, strategies, policy dialogues and knowledge platforms to promote energy system transformation in Asia and the Pacific, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 7, including promoting energy connectivity, investments in energy infrastructure and cleaner energy technologies;</p> <p>(b) Regional dialogues to promote access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all with a focus on energy connectivity, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies;</p> <p>(c) The discussions and outcomes of the Asian and Pacific Energy Forum and other regional agreements and mandates promoted by the Commission for regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy.</p>	<p>9. (a) Energy transition in Asia and the Pacific, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 7, and the Paris Agreement;</p> <p>(b) Regional cooperation to promote access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, including through energy connectivity;</p> <p>(c) Regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy through regional agreements and mandates, including the Asian and Pacific Energy Forum;</p> <p>(d) Assess and review implications of the energy transition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of the term of “energy transition” in line with General Assembly resolution 74/225.</li> </ul>