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**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**  
Committee on Environment and Development**Sixth session**

Bangkok, 9 and 10 December 2020

**Annotated provisional agenda**

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the sixth session of the Committee on Environment and Development (section I) and the annotations thereto (section II).

**I. Provisional agenda**

1. Opening of the session:
  - (a) Opening statements;
  - (b) Election of officers;
  - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Environment and development in the aftermath of the coronavirus disease pandemic in the Asia-Pacific region.
3. Accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific through environmental solutions:
  - (a) Raising climate ambition;
  - (b) Safeguarding ecosystem health;
  - (c) Clean air for all;
  - (d) Cities for a sustainable future.
4. Consideration of the future focus of the subprogramme, particularly on opportunities to enhance regional cooperation to accelerate environmental actions.
5. Other matters.
6. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its sixth session.

## **II. Annotations**

### **1. Opening of the session**

#### **(a) Opening statements**

The programme for the session will be available online at [www.unescap.org/intergovernmental-meetings/committee-environment-and-development-sixth-session](http://www.unescap.org/intergovernmental-meetings/committee-environment-and-development-sixth-session).

#### **(b) Election of officers**

The Committee will elect a chair and vice-chair(s) for the session.

The list of the participants will be available online at [www.unescap.org/intergovernmental-meetings/committee-environment-and-development-sixth-session](http://www.unescap.org/intergovernmental-meetings/committee-environment-and-development-sixth-session).

#### **(c) Adoption of the agenda**

##### **Documentation**

Annotated provisional agenda (ESCAP/CED/2020/L.1)

##### **Annotation**

The provisional agenda will be considered and adopted by the Committee, subject to such changes as may be necessary.

### **2. Environment and development in the aftermath of the coronavirus disease pandemic in the Asia-Pacific region**

##### **Documentation**

Environmental challenges related to the coronavirus disease pandemic in the Asia-Pacific region (ESCAP/CED/2020/1)

The role of sustainable mechanization in addressing the impact of the coronavirus disease on agriculture and in building resilience (ESCAP/CED/2020/INF/1)

##### **Annotation**

The Committee will consider the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the environment, as well as possible responses to reduce environmental risk and strengthen resilience, including through climate action and green growth. The Committee will also consider how recovery efforts can advance progress in the Asia-Pacific region in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, through a transition towards more sustainable, resilient and inclusive societies. Document ESCAP/CED/2020/1 focuses on identifying the environmental concerns related to the pandemic and highlighting the need for better environmental management to support recoveries and long-term resilience strategies.

The Committee will also have before it information document ESCAP/CED/2020/INF/1, which contains ways in which sustainable mechanization solutions could support the recovery of the agricultural sector

from the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and help in building the long-term resilience of the farming community in the region.

**3. Accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific through environmental solutions**

- (a) **Raising climate ambition**
- (b) **Safeguarding ecosystem health**
- (c) **Clean air for all**
- (d) **Cities for a sustainable future**

**Documentation**

Realizing environmental benefits through policy convergence and enhanced regional cooperation (ESCAP/CED/2020/2)

Looking into the future: four scenarios for environmental action (ESCAP/CED/2020/INF/2)

Accelerating regional ocean actions for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/CED/2020/INF/3)

Reducing straw residue burning and air pollution through sustainable agricultural mechanization (ESCAP/CED/2020/INF/4)

Sustainable cities post-coronavirus disease pandemic (ESCAP/CED/2020/INF/5)

**Annotation**

The Committee will discuss document ESCAP/CED/2020/2, which contains an overview of environmental solutions to help accelerate ambitious action on climate and air pollution, sustainable resource and ecosystem use for human well-being, and sustainable cities.

Under this agenda item, the Committee will also have before it four information documents. Information document ESCAP/CED/2020/INF/2 contains four scenarios for environmental action for a sustainable future in Asia and the Pacific. Information document ESCAP/CED/2020/INF/3 includes a summary of the outcomes and recommendations from the Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean, to be held in October 2020. How sustainable agricultural mechanization could effectively reduce straw residue burning, and the air pollution it causes, in Asia and the Pacific is highlighted in information document ESCAP/CED/2020/INF/4. Information document ESCAP/CED/2020/INF/5 contains strategies for sustainable urban development in Asia-Pacific cities following the COVID-19 pandemic.

**4. Consideration of the future focus of the subprogramme, particularly on opportunities to enhance regional cooperation to accelerate environmental actions**

**Documentation**

Opportunities to enhance regional cooperation to accelerate environmental actions (ESCAP/CED/2020/3)

**Annotation**

Document ESCAP/CED/2020/3 contains a discussion of opportunities for the Committee to strengthen cooperation and accelerate environmental actions through focused attention on the environmental domains discussed at the session.

The Committee will consider an overview of the secretariat's work in the areas of environment and development, including its contribution to areas that should be mainstreamed in the work of all the committees in accordance with the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

The Committee may wish to provide the secretariat with guidance on the preparations for the programme plan for 2022 based on its deliberations.

**5. Other matters**

The Committee may wish to consider other matters not covered under the items mentioned above.

**6. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its sixth session**

**Documentation**

Draft report (ESCAP/CED/2020/L.2)

**Annotation**

The Committee will consider and adopt the report on its sixth session for submission to the Commission at its seventy-seventh session.

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