



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Committee on Environment and Development

First session
2-4 December 2009
Bangkok

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session

The programme for the opening of the session will be announced in due course.

2. Election of officers

A chairperson, vice-chairperson(s) and a rapporteur will be elected.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda (E/ESCAP/CED/L.1) will be considered and adopted by the Committee, subject to such changes as may be necessary. The secretariat will brief the Committee on the background, objective and role of the Committee and how the agenda supports meeting the objectives outlined in the terms of reference.

4. High-level Panel on Key Challenges, Opportunities and the Way Forward in the Area of Environment and Development

The aim of this interactive discussion, attended by eminent experts and senior policymakers, representatives from relevant fields and stakeholder groups, is to encourage debate on policy issues in the spheres of environment and development faced by Asia and the Pacific and to generate action-oriented recommendations which will be useful to guide member States and the work of ESCAP.

5. Trends and progress in the field of environment and development

The Committee will review selected issues that are relevant to the trends and progress in the field of environment and development. Two background documents will be prepared to stimulate the deliberations of the Committee. In connection to these background documents, members and associate members attending the session may wish to share their experiences and lessons learned with respect to national policies on the above-mentioned issues, and provide the secretariat with guidance in planning and implementing its subsequent activities in the relevant area, including the preparations for the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, to be held in 2010.

(a) Integration of environmental sustainability in development policy

E/ESCAP/CED/1 provides an overview of trends and major progress in integrating environmental sustainability in development policy in the region. Identification of their implications with broader economic and social development challenges such as poverty reduction, food security and gender mainstreaming will be explored. In this context, emerging concepts and policy directions will also be discussed which could include the application of Green Growth, eco-efficiency in planning and development as well as those proposed to respond to the multiple crises, such as green recovery, green new deals and green jobs.

(b) Enhanced access to services towards socially inclusive and sustainable development: water, sanitation, energy, transport and housing

Document E/ESCAP/CED/2 elaborates on practical approaches towards the integration of the environment in development policy with a focus on enhancing access to the provision of services to all, and particularly to the poor, including water, sanitation, energy, transport and housing. Access to these services is critical in contributing towards poverty reduction and provides an important nexus between environmental sustainability and socio-economic development. The document will also cover emerging issues relevant to promoting regional cooperation on energy security following the outcomes of the 64th session of the Commission as well as sustainable infrastructure including issues relevant to promote eco-cities. The document will provide an analysis of policy implications and options to further enhance access to services based on experiences from national initiatives and ESCAP's projects.

6. Programme planning and monitoring

(a) Review of the implementation of the programme of work for 2008-2009 and highlights of the proposed programme of work for 2010-2011

Document E/ESCAP/CED/3 summarizes the progress of implementation of the programme of work for the biennium 2008-2009 and provides a preliminary assessment of the achievements of the biennium under subprogramme 6 on Environment and Development. It also highlights key activities planned for the biennium 2010-2011. The Committee is invited to provide inputs and information that may facilitate preparatory work for the implementation of the proposed work programme for 2010-2011.

(b) Review of the draft strategic framework for 2012-2013

The Committee is invited to review document E/ESCAP/CED/4, which contains a draft of the key elements of the ESCAP strategic framework for the period 2012-2013 in respect of subprogramme 6, Environment and sustainable development. The draft strategic framework contains a set of objectives, expected accomplishments and strategy for the implementation of subprogramme 6. The Committee is requested to provide its input on the proposed priorities and key results to be achieved by the secretariat for the biennium 2012-2013. Based on the comments of the Committee, the secretariat will finalize its draft strategic framework for the period 2012-2013 for further consideration by the Commission at its sixty-sixth session.

7. Consideration of draft resolutions, recommendations and decisions for submission to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session

Members are encouraged to circulate, in advance, proposals and/or texts of draft resolutions on priority issues relating to environment and development. The Committee may wish to review the proposals and/or texts of these draft resolutions, from a technical perspective, for submission to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session.

8. Other matters

The Committee may raise any matter not covered under the items mentioned above.

9. Adoption of the report

The Committee will adopt the report on its first session for submission to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session.

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