ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

ANNUAL REPORT
17 May 2018 – 31 MAY 2019

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 2019

SUPPLEMENT No. 19

UNITED NATIONS
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<tr>
<td>APCICT</td>
<td>Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development</td>
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<td>APDIM</td>
<td>Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>APCTT</td>
<td>Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology</td>
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<td>CSAM</td>
<td>Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization</td>
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<td>ESCAP</td>
<td>Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<td>NEASPEC</td>
<td>North East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation</td>
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<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-fifth session at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 27 to 31 May 2019. The present report covers the period from 17 May 2018 to 31 May 2019 and contains the conclusions reached by the Commission. The account of proceedings of the session is contained in a separate document (ESCAP/75/36).

Chapter I

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

2. At its seventy-fifth session, the Commission adopted nine resolutions and 20 decisions, which are reproduced below. The nine resolutions are brought to the attention of the Council.

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

Resolution 75/1
Implementation of the outcome of the Euro-Asian Regional Midterm Review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/137 of 12 December 2014, by which the Assembly endorsed the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, and Assembly resolution 72/232 of 20 December 2017, in which it decided to convene a comprehensive high-level midterm review on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for the Decade 2014–2024,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Vienna Programme of Action of addressing the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries arising from their landlockedness, remoteness and geographical constraints in a more coherent manner and thus contributing to an enhanced rate of sustainable and inclusive growth, which can contribute to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty,

Acknowledging the importance of promoting collaboration between landlocked developing countries and transit countries on the basis of common interest, and noting that collaboration efforts should be supported by an enabling international economic environment, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national priorities, while remaining consistent with international law and commitments,

1. Notes the convening of the Euro-Asian Regional Midterm Review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, held in Bangkok on 11 and 12 February 2019;

2. Also notes the intention of the Executive Secretary to transmit the outcome of the Euro-Asian Regional Midterm Review of the Vienna Programme of Action as an input of the Asia-Pacific region to the comprehensive high-level midterm

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1 Annexes I and II.
2 ESCAP/75/33, annex.
review on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, which will be held in New York in December 2019;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to provide capacity-building assistance to member States towards the smooth implementation of the six priorities of the Vienna Programme of Action;

(b) 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.

Resolution 75/2
Committing to strengthening the links between national, regional and global follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 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 the Assembly emphasized that Governments had the primary responsibility for follow-up and review, at the national, regional and global levels, in relation to the progress made in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and targets by 2030,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the high-level political forum on sustainable development would have a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes of the 2030 Agenda at the global level, encouraged Member States to identify the most suitable regional or subregional forums and formats, where appropriate, as a further means of contributing to the follow-up and review at the high-level political forum, recognizing the need to avoid duplication, and welcomed the steps taken in that regard,

Recalling further resolution 73/1 of 19 May 2017 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on aligning the conference structure of the Commission with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which the Commission decided that the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development was part of the subsidiary structure of the Commission, and resolution 73/9 of 19 May 2017 on the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, in which it called upon member States to cooperate in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as provided for by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1, including at the regional level, in light of the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific,³

Having considered the report of the Sixth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development and its annex,⁴

Noting the inadequate level of means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the country level and that the Asia-Pacific region needs to accelerate efforts in relation to the achievement of every Sustainable Development Goal if it aims to implement the 2030 Agenda,

³ E/ESCAP/73/31, annex II.
⁴ ESCAP/75/5.
Noting also that empowering people, including civil society and the private sector, and ensuring their inclusion is fundamental for realizing the aspiration of leaving no one behind and embodies the transformative nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Emphasizing its role in supporting countries, in particular countries with special needs, in providing a regional perspective on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting with appreciation the role of the secretariat of the Commission in building national and regional capacities for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including for the voluntary national reviews,

1. Emphasizes the importance of strengthening the links between national, regional and global follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;\(^5\)

2. Recognizes the key role played by the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development in providing a regional space for follow-up and review, including for member States to discuss their voluntary national reviews among regional peers before submission to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

3. Calls upon its members, and urges the Economic and Social Council, to ensure that inputs emanating from the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development are adequately reflected annually in the programme and deliberations of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

4. recommits to strong regional cooperation along the priority areas identified in the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific;\(^3\)

5. Requests the Chair of the Sixth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development to present these messages, on behalf of the Asia-Pacific region, to the high-level political forum on sustainable development at its sessions held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in July 2019 and under the auspices of the General Assembly in September 2019;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to consult member States on how to strengthen the link between the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and invites member States to consider reviewing progress on the implementation of the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, as appropriate;

7. Also requests the Executive Secretary 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.

Resolution 75/3
Advancing partnerships within and across regions for the sustainable development of 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 and resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level, in which the

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\(^5\) General Assembly resolution 70/1.
Assembly acknowledged the importance of the regional and subregional dimensions of the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in which, inter alia, the Assembly reaffirmed the role and functions of the United Nations development system at the regional level, including the regional economic commissions and the regional teams of the United Nations development system,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 73/291 of 15 April 2019, in which the Assembly recognized that South-South and triangular cooperation contributed to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and reaffirmed the role of the regional commissions in supporting South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives, in accordance with their respective mandates, and bearing in mind the ongoing United Nations development system reform, through ongoing activities such as enhancing connectivity and by harnessing the human and other resources of relevant knowledge networks, partnerships, technical and research capacity to enhance subregional, regional and interregional South-South and triangular cooperation,

Recalling resolution 73/1 of 19 May 2017 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on aligning its conference structure with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and resolution 73/9 of 19 May 2017 on the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific,

Recognizing the importance of partnerships within and across regions and subregions for the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including in terms of sharing knowledge of business models, best practices and home-grown approaches and building capacities for implementation,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing consultations between the United Nations, including the Commission, and subregional, regional and interregional organizations and frameworks to promote dialogue and cooperation in Asia and the Pacific to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

1. **Calls for** the strengthening of partnerships among member States, subregional, regional and interregional organizations and frameworks, and development partners, and in particular the United Nations system, in promoting sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific;

2. **Recommends** exploring complementarities between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the regional road maps and development strategies and priorities of subregional, regional and interregional organizations and frameworks;

3. **Encourages** member States to identify and promote business models, best practices and home-grown approaches for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

4. **Invites** subregional, regional and interregional organizations and frameworks to collaborate with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in promoting sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region;

5. **Requests** the Executive Secretary:

   (a) To strengthen cooperation, with subregional, regional and interregional organizations and frameworks in (i) identifying complementarities between their development strategies and priorities and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

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6 General Assembly resolution 70/1.
Development; (ii) the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific; and (iii) identifying and analysing business models, best practices and home-grown approaches for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and sharing them within and across subregions and regions;

(b) To explore, in consultation with member States, options for establishing networks to support the capacities of countries in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific;

(c) To strengthen cooperation with the other United Nations regional commissions in the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and in sharing business models, best practices and home-grown approaches for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

(d) As convener of the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism, to strengthen and promote communication, cooperation and collaboration among the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programme of the United Nations system in the Asia-Pacific region and other stakeholders, as appropriate, in support of efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by member States, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and Pacific island developing countries;

(e) To assist with implementing in the Asia-Pacific region the recommendations contained in General Assembly resolution 73/291, taking into account regional and subregional specificities, including by harnessing the human and other resources of relevant knowledge networks, partnerships, technical and research capacity by exchanging experiences on best practices on issues related to sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda and by convening regional forums in which developing countries can exchange experiences and coordinate their own South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives, including by discussing non-binding voluntary methodologies and building upon existing experiences for accounting and evaluating South-South and triangular cooperation;

6. Also requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventy-seventh session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

5th plenary meeting
31 May 2019

Resolution 75/4
Strengthening regional cooperation to tackle air pollution challenges 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” and the Sustainable Development Goal targets related to air pollution, such as target 3.9 to substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination by 2030 and target 11.6 to reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management, by 2030,

Recognizing that air pollution is a pressing environmental challenge that has increased considerably in recent years, leading to a rise in premature deaths, threatening livelihoods and the sustainable development of the region, in particular in many cities in Asia and the Pacific where air pollution is a major public health hazard to an increasing urban population,

Recognizing also the growing need for clean energy and diversification of energy sources through new, efficient and environmentally sound technologies, which can contribute to climate change mitigation, environmental sustainability and reduced air pollution,
Recalling World Health Assembly resolution 68.8 of 26 May 2015, entitled “Health and the environment: addressing the health impact of air pollution”, and resolution 3/8 of 6 December 2017 of the United Nations Environment Assembly on preventing and reducing air pollution to improve air quality globally,

Recognizing the work of various intergovernmental programmes in Asia and the Pacific concerning air pollution, including the Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its Likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia, the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia and the Asia-Pacific Clean Air Partnership,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of member States to combat air pollution, including through the launch of the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership,

1. Encourages all members and associate members to strengthen domestic policies and measures to reduce air pollution and mitigate the impacts of air pollution on human health;

2. Invites all members and associate members to share with other members their experiences of subregional and regional cooperation on various intergovernmental programmes in Asia and the Pacific concerning air pollution, including through the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development and the Committee on Environment and Development, where appropriate;

3. Invites member States to strengthen efforts to foster sustainable and environmentally sound development towards ecological sustainability and cooperation on, and the transfer of, environmentally sound technologies, on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, to tackle air pollution challenges;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary:

    (a) To facilitate the voluntary exchange of experiences of subregional and regional cooperation, including the promotion of voluntary scientific and technological cooperation to tackle air pollution in Asia and the Pacific, to facilitate the collection and dissemination of information, and to conduct analytical studies related to air pollution in the region to support policies, as appropriate, taking into account in-house expertise and the mandate of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;

    (b) To collaborate with regional and subregional programmes on air pollution, relevant United Nations bodies, including the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, and multilateral and bilateral donors to tackle air pollution challenges in Asia and the Pacific, in accordance with their respective mandates;

    (c) To provide, upon request of member States, technical support for the development of policies on mitigation of air pollution;

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

5th plenary meeting
31 May 2019

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7 See World Health Organization, document WHA68/2015/REC/1.
Resolution 75/5
Implementation of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration of the 2018 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015, by which the Assembly endorsed the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted by the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015,

Recalling also resolution 73/7 of 19 May 2017 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on enhancing regional cooperation for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling further the successful convening of the 2016 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction resulting in the adoption of the New Delhi declaration on disaster risk reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2016 and the Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,9

Appreciating the successful outcome of the 2018 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Ulaanbaatar from 3 to 6 July 2018, co-hosted by the Government of Mongolia and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction,10

1. Welcomes the Ulaanbaatar Declaration of the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction;10

2. Encourages the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the Ulaanbaatar Declaration with a view to achieving the overarching goals of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–203011 through enhanced regional cooperation;


4. Invites member States to participate in the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Brisbane, Australia, from 23 to 26 June 2020, at the highest level;

5. Encourages all member States to strengthen the role of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, including through the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction, in enhancing regional cooperation in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary:

   (a) To continue to strengthen inter-agency coordination with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and other United Nations bodies to enhance

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10 ESCAP/75/34, annex.
11 General Assembly resolution 69/283, annex II.
regional cooperation in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, recognizing that the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction serves as the focal point in the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction, taking into account the Action Plan 2018–2020 of the Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, and to contribute to the periodic assessment of the progress in its implementation;

(b) To provide member States, upon request, with capacity-development assistance in support of their efforts to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, taking into account the Action Plan 2018–2020;

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

5th plenary meeting
31 May 2019

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)

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 73/6 of 26 October 2018, entitled “Fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: space as a driver of sustainable development”, in which the Assembly invited the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue to develop, on the basis of the results of the fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50), a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan,

Recalling resolution 2016/27 of 27 July 2016 of the Economic and Social Council on strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management, in which the Council requested that regional commissions provide relevant support, upon request and as appropriate, to the work of the regional bodies of the United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management and that the outcomes and benefits of the activities of those bodies be equally disseminated to all Member States in each region,

Recalling also resolution 69/11 of 1 May 2013 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action for Applications of Space Technology and Geographic Information Systems for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development, 2012–2017, and the annex thereto, in which the secretariat was requested to take the lead in implementing the Plan of Action in the region,

Welcoming the successful outcome of the Third Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok on 10 October 2018, and having considered the report of the Ministerial Conference,12 the Ministerial Declaration on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific13 and the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030),14

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12 ESCAP/75/10.
13 ESCAP/75/10/Add.1.
14 ESCAP/75/10/Add.2.
Expecting that the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030) will strengthen the capacity of States members of the Commission in geospatial information management and facilitate the dissemination of the outcomes and benefits of geospatial activities to member States in the region,

1. **Endorses** the Ministerial Declaration on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific\(^\text{13}\) and the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030);\(^\text{14}\)

2. **Invites** all members and associate members to work together closely and develop appropriate joint programmes and projects that are aligned with the priority themes, goals, targets and actions of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030);

3. **Requests** the Executive Secretary:

   (a) To accord priority to support the 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);

   (b) To carry out in 2022 an evaluation of the implementation by member States of phase I of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030) and to submit a report with recommendations to the fourth Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific;

   (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.

5th plenary meeting
31 May 2019

Resolution 75/7
Advancing the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative through regional cooperation

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 71/212 of 21 December 2016 on information and communications technologies for development,


Recognizing that access to information and communications technology and related capacity-building, including for youth, older persons, women, persons with disabilities, and remote and rural communities, are fundamental to reducing the digital divide, alleviating poverty and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other international development goals in Asia and the Pacific,

Acknowledging resolution 73/6 of 19 May 2017 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative through regional cooperation, in which the Commission invited members and associate members to cooperate in the implementation of the Master Plan for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway\(^\text{15}\)
Recognizing that the International Telecommunication Union at the World Telecommunication Development Conference in Buenos Aires in 2017 called for strengthening cooperation with international and regional organizations to enhance regional information and communications technology connectivity, including through initiatives such as the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative,

Acknowledging with satisfaction the outcomes of the second meeting of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Steering Committee and of the second session of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation, held in Bangkok in August 2018, at which the Committee endorsed the Master Plan for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway, 2019–2022, and the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Regional Cooperation Framework Document, 2019–2022,

1. Invites members and associate members to cooperate in the implementation of the Master Plan for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway, 2019–2022, and the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Regional Cooperation Framework Document, 2019–2022, as endorsed by the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation at its second session;

2. Also invites members and associate members to consider developing and implementing subregional implementation plans for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative, as appropriate and on a voluntary basis, taking into account the specificities of each subregion and the national legislation of the countries concerned, including, but not limited to, infrastructure sharing and co-deployment of fibre-optic cables along passive infrastructure;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue support to the ongoing activities on the implementation of the Asia Pacific Information Superhighway initiative;

(b) To support member countries with policy advice, technical studies and capacity-building, upon request, in relation to the development and implementation of subregional implementation plans for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative;

(c) To encourage the participation of various stakeholders, such as United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, regional and subregional organizations, and international financial institutions and partners, as well as the private sector, civil society, research institutes and think tanks, as appropriate, in the development and implementation of subregional implementation plans for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative;

(d) To continue to conduct research and analysis and capacity development to identify challenges and opportunities associated with the four pillars of and subregional implementation plans for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative;

(e) To report to the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation at its third session on the progress made in the development and implementation of subregional implementation plans for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative;

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16 E/ESCAP/CICTSTI(1)/3.
17 ESCAP/75/INF/5.
18 ESCAP/75/INF/6.
(f) 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.

5th plenary meeting
31 May 2019

Resolution 75/8
Advancing science, technology and innovation for the implementation of the 2030
Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, entitled “The
future we want”, resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda
of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and resolution
70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for
Sustainable Development”, in which the Assembly recognized, inter alia, the critical
role of science, technology and innovation in promoting sustainable development, in
particular in developing countries, and the significance of international cooperation in
that regard,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 70/213 of 22 December 2015 on
science, technology and innovation for development, in which the Assembly
recognized the vital role that science, technology and innovation, including
environmentally sound technologies, could play in development and in facilitating
efforts to address global challenges, such as efforts to eradicate poverty, achieve food
security and nutrition, enhance access to energy and increase energy efficiency, fight
diseases, improve education, protect the environment, accelerate the pace of economic
diversification, inclusion, growth and transformation, improve productivity and
competitiveness and, ultimately, support sustainable development,

Recalling further resolution 71/1 of 29 May 2015 of the Economic and Social
Commission for Asia and the Pacific on restructuring its conference structure to be fit
for the evolving post-2015 development agenda, in which the Commission
reconstituted the Committee on Information and Communications Technology as the
Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology
and Innovation, in order to deal with the emerging issues, challenges and opportunities
in the area of science, technology and innovation,

Reaffirming its resolution 72/12 of 19 May 2016, in which the Commission
reiterated that science, technology and innovation were vital to the implementation of
the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that the Commission was one of
the most suitable forums in the region to move forward science, technology and
innovation for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing that in order to apply science, technology and innovation for the
achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, member States are encouraged to,
as appropriate, integrate the Goals into their national development strategies and then
adopt national science, technology and innovation road maps, policies and strategies
for the achievement of the Goals; invest in research and development; strengthen
personnel capacity-building in the area of science, technology and innovation; and
establish innovation incubator centres,

Recalling its resolution 72/12, in which the Commission invited member
States to work further on convening the biennial Asia-Pacific Innovation Forum, and
welcoming the 2019 Asia-Pacific Innovation Forum as a means to enhance and
facilitate voluntary knowledge-sharing and collaboration and to encourage the
participation of member States of the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders,
as appropriate,

1. Reaffirms that the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the
Pacific is one of the most suitable regional forums in the United Nations system for
encouraging dialogue and cooperation among member States on science, technology and innovation policies, in particular through its Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation, in Asia and the Pacific;

2. Encourages member States to enhance North-South, South-South and triangular, regional and international cooperation to advance science, technology and innovation, including knowledge-sharing on voluntary and mutually agreed terms;

3. Invites member States to consider the development and adoption of national science, technology and innovation road maps, policies and strategies for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, as appropriate;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary:

   (a) To raise awareness among member States of the science, technology and innovation dialogues taking place in various forums and international, regional and subregional organizations and frameworks, by acting as a bridge to facilitate cooperation and joint action when necessary;

   (b) To encourage, through existing mechanisms, member States to promote public, public-private and civil society partnerships, as appropriate, in order to harness science, technology and innovation for inclusive and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific;

   (c) To assist member States with the process of developing and adopting science, technology and innovation road maps, policies and strategies for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in cooperation with relevant organizations of the United Nations development system and other organizations and frameworks, as appropriate;

5. Calls upon member States and the relevant organizations of the United Nations development system to support the Commission in harnessing science, technology and innovation for inclusive and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region through all mechanisms, as appropriate, to create a conducive international environment for advancing science, technology and innovation;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventy-seventh session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

Resolution 75/9
Implementation of the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Welcoming transformative shifts in the production and use of official statistics as imperative for the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,\(^{19}\)

Appreciating the efforts of the Asia-Pacific statistical community to advance official statistics guided by 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”\(^{20}\)

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\(^{19}\) General Assembly resolution 70/1.

\(^{20}\) E/ESCAP/CST(5)/1/Rev.1.
Recalling its endorsement of the recommendation of the Committee on Statistics to convene the sixth session of the Committee at a higher decision-making level,\(^{21}\) given the critical importance of high-level government commitment to the successful implementation of the collective vision and framework for action, to secure political, institutional and resource support and to mobilize broad-based partnerships in order to achieve the collective vision of transforming national statistical systems in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Welcoming the inclusive preparatory process for, the high-level participation in and the successful outcomes of the sixth session of the Committee on Statistics, held in Bangkok from 16 to 19 October 2018,

1. **Endorses** the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind, adopted on 19 October 2018;\(^{22}\)

2. **Calls upon** members and associate members to make every effort to fulfil the commitments contained in the Declaration;

3. **Requests** the Executive Secretary:
   
   (a) To support members and associate members in their efforts to fulfil the commitments contained in the Declaration;

   (b) To engage with relevant development partners and other stakeholders to facilitate continuous, coordinated and effective efforts to fulfil the commitments contained in the Declaration;

   (c) To report to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its eighty-first session, in 2025, on the outcomes of the midpoint review at the ninth session of the Committee on Statistics, in 2024, convened at a higher decision-making level, assessing implementation of the Declaration.

5th plenary meeting
31 May 2019

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

**Decision 75/1**
Closing the gap: empowerment and inclusion in Asia and the Pacific

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat entitled “Closing the gap: empowerment and inclusion in Asia and the Pacific” (ESCAP/75/1).

**Decision 75/2**
Executive summary of the Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report 2019

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission took note of the executive summary of the Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report 2019 (ESCAP/75/2).


\(^{22}\) ESCAP/75/4/Add.1.
Decision 75/3
 Matters calling for action by the Commission or brought to its attention emanating from the meetings of its subsidiary bodies held in the period 2018–2019

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission endorsed the matters calling for action by the Commission or brought to its attention emanating from the meetings of its subsidiary bodies held in the period 2018–2019 (ESCAP/75/4).

Decision 75/4
 Reports of intergovernmental bodies and meetings held in the period 2018–2019

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission endorsed the following documents:

(a) Report of the Sixth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (ESCAP/75/5);
(b) Report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization on its fourteenth session (ESCAP/75/8);
(c) Report of the Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific on its third session (ESCAP/75/10);
(d) Report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management on its third session (ESCAP/75/11);
(e) Report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development on its thirteenth session (ESCAP/75/18);

Decision 75/5
 Documents prepared by the secretariat on issues pertinent to the review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission took note of the following documents:

(a) Summary of progress in the implementation of Commission resolutions (ESCAP/75/3);
(b) Annual reports of international and intergovernmental organizations provided to the Commission (ESCAP/75/INF/1);
(c) Report on the fifth session of the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022 (ESCAP/75/7);
(d) Taking action to combat climate change and its impacts: how empowerment leads to sustainable outcomes (ESCAP/75/9);
(e) Addressing disaster resilience through digital and geospatial innovations (ESCAP/75/12);
(f) Universal access to energy in Asia and the Pacific: evidence-based strategies to achieve empowerment, inclusiveness and equality through Sustainable Development Goal 7 (ESCAP/75/13);
(g) Sustainable transport as an engine for greater empowerment, inclusiveness and equality in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/75/14);
(h) Thinking beyond economic growth to empower people, take care of the planet and pursue the Sustainable Development Goals (ESCAP/75/15);
(i) Report of the 5th meeting of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation (ESCAP/75/16);
(j) Growing challenges for trade and investment (ESCAP/75/17);

(k) Digital connectivity and the digital economy (ESCAP/75/20);

(l) Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: challenges and emerging solutions in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/75/23).

Decision 75/6
Report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology on its fourteenth session

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology on its fourteenth session (ESCAP/75/19).

Decision 75/7
Report of the Midterm Review of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development including the Chair’s summary

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission endorsed the report of the Midterm Review of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development and took note of the Chair’s summary contained in annex II (ESCAP/75/6).

Decision 75/8
Report on the work of the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific and the list of Regional Steering Group members for the second period (2020–2024)

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission took note of the report on the work of the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/75/22) and approved the list of Regional Steering Group members for the second period (2020–2024).

Decision 75/9
Report of the Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia on its thirteenth session

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission endorsed the report of the Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia on its thirteenth session (ESCAP/75/24).

Decision 75/10
Subregional perspectives on empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality in Asia and the Pacific

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on subregional perspectives on empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/75/25).

Decision 75/11
Proposed programme plan for 2020 and the supplementary information on the programme plan and performance information

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission endorsed the proposed programme plan for 2020 (ESCAP/75/26) and took note of the supplementary information on the programme plan and performance information (ESCAP/75/INF/2/Rev.2).

Decision 75/12
Proposed programme changes for the biennium 2018–2019

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission endorsed the proposed programme changes for the biennium 2018–2019 (ESCAP/75/27).
Decision 75/13
Overview of partnerships, extrabudgetary contributions and capacity development

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission took note of the note by the secretariat on the overview of partnerships, extrabudgetary contributions and capacity development (ESCAP/75/28) and expressed its appreciation for the following contributions pledged by members and associate members for 2019:

1. **Brunei Darussalam.** The secretariat had received written notification that the Government of Brunei Darussalam would make the following contributions:

   - SIAP $15 000
   - Pacific Trust Fund $1 000

2. **China.** The delegation of China noted that its Government had made the following contributions:

   - China-ESCAP Cooperation Programme $1 000 000 and RMB 1 500 000
   - APCTT $30 000
   - CSAM (for administration) $1 600 000
   - CSAM (for programmes) $120 000
   - SIAP $70 000
   - Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons $10 000
   - NEASPEC $50 000

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

   - APCTT $400 000
   - CSAM $15 000
   - SIAP $25 000
   - ESCAP Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia $79 000

4. **Indonesia.** The delegation of Indonesia announced that its Government would make the following contributions:

   - APCTT $10 000
   - CSAM $30 000
   - SIAP $30 000

5. **Japan.** The delegation of Japan announced that its Government would make the following contributions for the period April 2019 to March 2020:

   - Japan-ESCAP Cooperation Fund $27 594
   - SIAP $1 812 400

The cash contribution to SIAP includes $70,700 to conduct training courses in Japan. The delegation of Japan announced that its Government intended to make a contribution in-kind equivalent to $1,112,545 to SIAP for the period from April 2019 to March 2020, subject to the number of lecturers of SIAP being maintained as before. Furthermore, as part of its technical cooperation programme through the Japan International Cooperation Agency, in cooperation with SIAP, the delegation announced its Government’s intention to provide fellowships for 40 participants in specific training courses on official statistics.
6. 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
- SIAP: $20,000

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

- 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 75/14
Report on the evaluation of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology and the evaluation of the Centre

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission took note of the report on the evaluation of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (ESCAP/75/29) and the evaluation of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (ESCAP/75/INF/3).

Decision 75/15
Midpoint review of the conference structure of the Commission in implementation of resolution 73/1

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission took note of the note of the secretariat on the midpoint review of the conference structure of the Commission in implementation of resolution 73/1 (ESCAP/75/30) and the Chair’s summary of discussions (ESCAP/75/INF/4).

Decision 75/16
Organization of the annual sessions of the Commission

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, 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.23

Decision 75/17
Review of the conference structure of the Commission

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission, recognizing the need for the Commission to adapt and respond to the evolving development challenges and opportunities within the Asia-Pacific region, and to be fit for purpose in line with

23 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.
the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, decided to establish an open-ended working group to further consider issues pertinent to the review of the conference structure of the Commission as provided for in its resolution 71/1 and resolution 73/1, and requested the working group to report its findings and recommendations to the Commission at its seventy-sixth session, without prejudice to the final review of the conference structure to be conducted at the seventy-eighth session of the Commission. The Commission also requested the Executive Secretary to make appropriate arrangements and to provide necessary and requested information to support the deliberations of the open-ended working group on the review of the conference structure of the Commission.

Decision 75/18
Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission took note of the report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (ESCAP/75/31).

Decision 75/19
Dates and venue of the seventy-sixth session of the Commission (2020)

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission decided that its seventy-sixth session would be held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 18 to 22 May 2020 (ESCAP/75/32).

Decision 75/20
Theme topic for the seventy-sixth session of the Commission (2020)

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 31 May 2019, the Commission decided that the theme topic for its seventy-sixth session would be “Promoting economic, social and environmental cooperation on oceans for sustainable development.” (ESCAP/75/32).
Chapter II

Organization of the seventy-fifth session of the Commission

A. Attendance and organization of work

3. The seventy-fifth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific was held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 27 to 31 May 2019.

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

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
Maldives
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nauru
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Pakistan
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Samoa
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Tonga
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Tuvalu
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, Canada, Israel, Italy, Norway, Portugal, San Marino and Switzerland attended. Representatives of the European Union, the Holy See, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies also attended.

6. Representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asia-Pacific Telecommunity; Asian and Pacific Coconut Community; Asian Development Bank; Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation; Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia; ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee; Greater Tumen Initiative; Mekong River Commission; Pacific Islands Forum secretariat; Shanghai Cooperation Organization; South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation secretariat; and Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat.

7. Representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations attended: Asia-Pacific Telecommunity; Asian and Pacific Coconut Community; Asian Development Bank; Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation; Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia; ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee; Greater Tumen Initiative; Mekong River Commission; Pacific Islands Forum secretariat; Shanghai Cooperation Organization; South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation secretariat; and Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat.


10. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations: Baha’i International Community; Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations; International Council on Social Welfare; International Federation of Business and Professional Women; International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations; International Movement ATD Fourth World; Organization of the Families of Asia and the Pacific; Pan Pacific and South-East Asia Women’s Association; and Voluntary Service Overseas.

11. The list of participants is available at www.unescap.org/commission/75/listOfParticipants.

12. In accordance with rule 13 of its rules of procedure, the Commission elected Mr. Damdin Tsogtbaatar (Mongolia) as Chair of the seventy-fifth session.

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

- Mr. M.A. Mannan (Bangladesh)
- Mr. Tandi Dorji (Bhutan)
- Mr. Ly Thuch (Cambodia)
- Mr. Zhang Jun (China)
- Ms. Mereseini Vuniwaqa (Fiji)
- Mr. A.M. Fachir (Indonesia)
- Mr. Seyed Hamid Pourmohammadi (Islamic Republic of Iran)
- Mr. Norikazu Suzuki (Japan)
- Mr. Mukhtar Tleuberdi (Kazakhstan)
- Mr. Teuea Toatu (Kiribati)
- Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith (Lao People’s Democratic Republic)
- Mr. Min Bahadur Shahi (Nepal)
Mr. Ernesto M. Pernia (Philippines)
Mr. Lee Taeho (Republic of Korea)
Ms. Faimalotia Iemaima Kolotita Stowers-Ah Kau (Samoa)
Mr. Don Pramudvinai (Thailand)
Mr. Dionisio Babo Soares (Timor-Leste)
Mr. Fidelis Manuel Leite Magalhaes (Timor-Leste)
Mr. Maatia Toafā (Tuvalu)
Mr. Bob Loughman (Vanuatu)

13. The senior officials segment of the session met in a Committee of the Whole. Mr. Mahe Tupouniua (Tonga) was elected Chair and Mr. Rajneesh (India) and Mr. Agustaviano Sofjan (Indonesia) were elected Vice-Chairs of the Committee.

14. The Commission also constituted the Working Group on Draft Resolutions to consider the draft resolutions submitted during the session. Ms. Raushan Yesbulatova (Kazakhstan) was elected Chair and Mr. Hiroshi Kawamura (Japan) 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. “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”: general debate on the theme topic.

3. Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries.

4. Review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific:
   (a) Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development;
   (b) Social development;
   (c) Environment and development;
   (d) Disaster risk reduction;
   (e) Energy;
   (f) Transport;
   (g) Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development;
   (h) Trade and investment;
   (i) Information and communications technology, science, technology and innovation;
   (j) Statistics.

5. Subregional perspectives on the theme topic: “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”.

6. Management issues:
   (a) Proposed programme plan for 2020;
   (b) Programme changes for the biennium 2018–2019;
(c) Overview of partnerships, extrabudgetary contributions and capacity development;
(d) Report on the evaluation of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology.


8. 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

16. Mr. Damdin Tsogtbaatar (Mongolia) presided over the opening of the seventy-fifth session, on 27 May 2019. Video messages from Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés (Ecuador), President of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, and the Secretary-General were played. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP delivered welcome remarks and a policy statement. Mr. Baron Divavesi Waqa, President of Nauru, and Mr. Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia, addressed the Commission. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand delivered a special address.

D. Adoption of the report of the Commission

17. The report of the Commission was adopted at its 5th plenary meeting on 31 May 2019.
Chapter III

Work of the Commission since the seventy-fourth session

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

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

(a) Committees:

(i) Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation (second session);
(ii) Committee on Statistics (sixth session);
(iii) Committee on Transport (fifth session);
(iv) Committee on Environment and Development (fifth session);
(v) Committee on Social Development (fifth session);
(vi) Committee on Trade and Investment (sixth session);

(b) Governing councils:

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

(c) Other intergovernmental meetings:

(i) Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (thirteenth session);
(ii) Third Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific;
(iii) Midterm Review of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development;
(iv) Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation (5th meeting);
(v) Sixth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development.

19. 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

20. The list of publications issued since the seventy-fourth 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

21. 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\(^1\) and the proposed programme budget for 2020:\(^2\)

   (a) Resolution ESCAP/RES/75/1: Implementation of the outcome of the Euro-Asian Regional Midterm Review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024;

   (b) Resolution ESCAP/RES/75/2: Committing to strengthening the links between national, regional and global follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific;

   (c) Resolution ESCAP/RES/75/3: Advancing partnerships within and across regions for the sustainable development of Asia and the Pacific;

   (d) Resolution ESCAP/RES/75/4: Strengthening regional cooperation to tackle air pollution challenges in Asia and the Pacific;

   (e) Resolution ESCAP/RES/75/5: Implementation of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration of the 2018 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction;

   (f) Resolution ESCAP/RES/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);

   (g) Resolution ESCAP/RES/75/7: Advancing the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative through regional cooperation;

   (h) Resolution ESCAP/RES/75/8: Advancing science, technology and innovation for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific;

   (i) Resolution ESCAP/RES/75/9: Implementation of the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind.

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

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\(^1\) See General Assembly resolution 72/263 A–C.

\(^2\) A/74/6 (Sect. 19).
### Annex II

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subsidiary bodies and officers</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Document symbol</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Committees</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation</td>
<td>Second session</td>
<td>ESCAP/CICTSTI/2018/9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair: Mr. Peyman Salehi (Islamic Republic of Iran)</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
<td>29–31 August 2018</td>
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<td>Vice-Chairs: Ms. Sirimali Fernando (Sri Lanka)</td>
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<td>Mr. Edgar I. Garcia (Philippines)</td>
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<td>Mr. Thavisak Manodham (Lao People’s Democratic Republic)</td>
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<td>Mr. Anitelu Toimoana (Tonga)</td>
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<tr>
<td>II. Committee on Statistics</td>
<td>Sixth session</td>
<td>ESCAP/CST/2018/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair: Mr. Mohd Uzir Bin Mahidin (Malaysia)</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
<td>16–19 October 2018</td>
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<td>Vice-Chairs: Mr. Ning Jizhe (China)</td>
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<td>Ms. Wah Wah Maung (Myanmar)</td>
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<td>Mr. Javad Hosseinzadehneyestani (Islamic Republic of Iran)</td>
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<td>Member: Mr. Gogita Todradze (Georgia)</td>
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<td>Rapporteur: Ms. Aliimuamua Malaefono Taua-T Faasalaina (Samoa)</td>
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<td>III. Committee on Transport</td>
<td>Fifth session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair: Mr. Erdem Direkler (Turkey)</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
<td>19–21 November 2018</td>
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<td>Vice-Chairs: Mr. Manindra Kishore Majumder (Bangladesh)</td>
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<td>Mr. Bambang Prihartono (Indonesia)</td>
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<td>IV. Committee on Environment and Development</td>
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<td>Chair: Mr. Sonam P. Wangdi (Bhutan)</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
<td>21–23 November 2018</td>
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<td>Vice-Chairs: Ms. Diane Gail L. Maharjan (Philippines)</td>
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<td>Mr. Oleg Shamanov (Russian Federation)</td>
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<td>Chair: Mr. Chantum Chea (Cambodia)</td>
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<td>Vice-Chairs: Mr. Maddhu Sudan Burlakoti (Nepal)</td>
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<td>Ms. Ji-hyun Park (Republic of Korea)</td>
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<td>Chair: Mr. Tumurkhuleg Tugsbilguun (Mongolia)</td>
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<td>Vice-Chairs: Mr. Md. Badrul Hassan Babul (Bangladesh)</td>
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<td>Ms. Karishma Narayan (Fiji)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair: Mr. Damith Tilanka Hettihewa (Sri Lanka)</td>
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<td>Vice-Chair: Ms. Molruedee Puangngern (Thailand)</td>
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<td><strong>II. Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia</strong></td>
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<td>and the Pacific</td>
<td>Incheon, Republic of Korea</td>
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<td>26 and 27 November 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair: Ms. Lisa Grace Bersales (Philippines)</td>
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<td>Vice-Chair: Mr. Hitoshi Yokoyama (Japan)</td>
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<td><strong>III. Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for</strong></td>
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<td>Transfer of Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair: Mr. Pathom Sawanpanyalert (Thailand)</td>
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<td>Vice-Chair: Mr. Edgar I. Garcia (Philippines)</td>
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<td>Chair: Mr. Saruth Chan (Cambodia)</td>
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<td>Vice-Chair: Mr. Baldwin Jallorina (Philippines)</td>
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### Subsidiary bodies and officers

| V. Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management |
|---|---|---|
| **Session** | Third session | ESCAP/75/11 |
| **Location** | Tehran | |
| **Date** | 19 December 2018 | |
| **Chair** | Mr. Seyed Hamid Pourmohammadi (Islamic Republic of Iran) | |
| **Vice-Chair** | Lieutenant General Omar Mahmood Hayat (Pakistan) | |

### Other intergovernmental meetings

| I. Governing Council of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia |
|---|---|---|
| **Session** | Thirteenth session | ESCAP/75/24 |
| **Location** | Almaty, Kazakhstan | |
| **Date** | 21 September 2018 | |
| **Chair** | Mr. Kairat Torebayev (Kazakhstan) | |

| II. Third Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific |
|---|---|---|
| **Session** | Bangkok | ESCAP/75/10 |
| **Date** | 10 October 2018 | |
| **Chair** | Ms. Kanyawim Kirtikara (Thailand) | |
| **Vice-Chairs** | Mr. Karunarathna Paranavithana (Sri Lanka) | |
| | Mr. Thomas Djamaluddin (Indonesia) | |

| III. Midterm Review of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development |
|---|---|---|
| **Session** | Bangkok | ESCAP/75/6 |
| **Date** | 26–28 November 2018 | |
| **Chair** | Dr. Juan Antonio Perez III (Philippines) | |
| **Vice-Chairs** | Dr. Ahmad Jan Naeem (Afghanistan) | |
| | Dr. Josefa Koroivueta (Fiji) | |

| IV. Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation |
|---|---|---|
| **Session** | Bangkok | ESCAP/75/16 |
| **Date** | 12 and 13 March 2019 | |
| **Chair** | Mr. Yusuf Riza (Maldives) | |
| **Vice-Chairs** | Ms. Rama Dewan (Bangladesh) | |
| | Mr. Ali Rahbari (Islamic Republic of Iran) | |

<p>| V. Sixth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development |
|---|---|---|
| <strong>Session</strong> | Bangkok | ESCAP/75/5 |
| <strong>Date</strong> | 27–29 March 2019 | |
| <strong>Chair</strong> | Mr. Fidelis Magalhaes (Timor-Leste) | |
| <strong>Vice-Chairs</strong> | Mr. Ahmad Jawad Osmani (Afghanistan) | |
| | Ms. Dipu Moni (Bangladesh) | |
| | Mr. Semi Tuleca Koroilavesau (Fiji) | |
| | Ms. Nino Tandilashvili (Georgia) | |
| | Mr. Rajiv Kumar (India) | |
| | Mr. Subandi Sardjoko (Indonesia) | |
| | Ms. Bulgantuya Khurelbaatar (Mongolia) | |</p>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Puspa Raj Kadel (Nepal)</td>
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<td>Ms. Rosemarie Edillon (Philippines)</td>
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<td>Mr. Ruslan Edelgeriev (Russian Federation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Daya Dharmapala Kilittuva Gamage (Sri Lanka)</td>
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<td>Mr. Silap Velbegov (Turkmenistan)</td>
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Annex III

Publications and documents issued by the Commission

A. Publications issued since the seventy-fourth session

Executive direction and management


What’s Ahead @ ESCAP.**

Subprogramme 1
Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development


Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Journal:

Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2019: Ambitions Beyond Growth. ST/ESCAP/2853 (Sales No. E.19.II.F.6).

Subprogramme 2
Trade and investment 1


Subprogramme 3
Transport

Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific: No. 88. ST/ESCAP/SE.R.E/88.**

Subprogramme 4
Environment and development


Environment and Development Series:**

2018: “Harnessing environmental action for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific”.

* Where applicable, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) document symbol and (in parentheses) United Nations publication sales numbers are noted. A double asterisk (**) denotes publications that are available online only.

1 Including the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology.
Subprogramme 5
Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction and management

Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Working Paper Series:*
April 2018: “A study on cost-benefit analysis of fibre-optic co-deployment with the Asian Highway connectivity”.
August 2018: “E-resilience: a review of national broadband policies, regulations, strategies and initiatives of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea”.
October 2018: “Fibre-optic co-deployment along the Asian Highways and Trans-Asian Railways for e-resilience: the cases of India and Bangladesh”.
October 2018: “Enhancing cybersecurity for industry 4.0 in Asia and the Pacific”.
March 2019: “Satellite communications in Pacific island countries”.
Ready for the Dry Years: Building Resilience to Drought in South-East Asia.
ST/ESCAP/2851 (Sales No. E.19.II.F.7).

Subprogramme 6
Social development

Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Journal:
Closing the Gap: Empowerment and Inclusion in Asia and the Pacific. ST/ESCAP/2858 (Sales No. E.19.II.F.8).
Social Outlook for Asia and the Pacific: Poorly Protected. ST/ESCAP/2844 (Sales No. E.19.II.F.2).
Social Development Policy Guides:
“How to implement inclusive social protection schemes”. ST/ESCAP/2834.
Social Development Policy Briefs:
No. 2018/01: “Financing for long-term care in Asia and the Pacific”.
Social Development Working Papers:
No. 2018/01: “The case for convergence: assessing regional income distribution in Asia and the Pacific”.
No. 2018/02: “Developing a toolkit to monitor implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in the context of the Asia-Pacific region”.
No. 2019/01: “Examining women’s economic employment in SPECA countries”.

Subprogramme 7
Statistics


Subprogramme 8
Subregional activities for development

Evolution of Science, Technology and Innovation Policies for Sustainable Development: The Experiences of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Singapore. ST/ESCAP/2850 (Sales No. E.19.II.F.4).

* Including the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development and the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management.
### B. Documents submitted to the Commission at its seventy-fifth session

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<td>ESCAP/75/L.2/Rev.1</td>
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<td>Draft report: Organization of the seventy-fifth session of the Commission</td>
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<td>Draft report: Statement of programme budget implications of actions and proposals of the Commission</td>
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<td>ESCAP/75/L.5/Rev.1</td>
<td>Draft resolution: Committing to strengthening the links between national, regional and global follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>4 (a)</td>
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<td>ESCAP/75/L.6/Rev.1</td>
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<td>4 (a) and 5</td>
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<td>Draft resolution: Strengthening regional cooperation to tackle air pollution challenges in Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<td>Draft resolution: Implementation of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration of the 2018 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
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<td>ESCAP/75/L.9/Rev.2</td>
<td>Draft resolution: 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)</td>
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<td>Draft resolution: Advancing science, technology and innovation for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<td>ESCAP/75/L.12/Rev.2</td>
<td>Draft resolution: Implementation of the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind</td>
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**Conference room paper**

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