



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

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**REVIEW OF ISSUES PERTINENT TO THE SUBSIDIARY STRUCTURE OF
THE COMMISSION, INCLUDING THE PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE
REPORT FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008-2009 AND THE WORK OF THE
ESCAP REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS: MACROECONOMIC POLICY,
POVERTY REDUCTION AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT**

(Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda)

**REPORT OF THE CENTRE FOR ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY
THROUGH SECONDARY CROPS DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA AND THE
PACIFIC**

Note by the secretariat

SUMMARY

The present report reviews the status of implementation of the programme of work, as well as the administrative and financial status, of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (CAPSA) in 2009.

The programme of work of CAPSA in 2009 focused on strengthening human resources, exploring various mechanisms for mobilizing additional financial resources, identifying options for creating greater visibility and relevance for the Centre in Asia and the Pacific and strengthening and expanding the Centre's regional network of national agricultural research institutes.

CAPSA projects in 2009 focused on food security and sustainable agriculture, including research on the impact of climate change on food production and availability and on adding value to fresh and processed produce through product certification. In line with its revitalization process, CAPSA implemented a two-day facilitated strategic planning workshop, which was attended by 34 participants, representing the CAPSA Technical Committee, the donor community, agricultural research centres and the private sector.

The fifth session of the Technical Committee was held in 2009. The Governing Council met in March 2010.

The Commission may wish to provide the secretariat with guidance on the strategic direction of the Centre, as well as on ways to strengthen its financial and staffing resources.

* The late submission of the present document is due to the sixth session of the Governing Council of CAPSA having been held on 23 March 2010.

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Introduction

1. The Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (CAPSA) is a subsidiary body of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). The Centre, located in Bogor, Indonesia, was established in April 1981 as the Regional Coordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific (CGPRT) pursuant to Commission resolution 174 (XXXIII) of 29 April 1977 and its statute adopted by Commission resolution 220 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982. The current name was adopted by the Commission in its resolution 60/5 of 28 April 2004.

2. In accordance with article 16 of the revised statute of the Centre,¹ the present annual report on the implementation of the programme of work of the Centre, including its administrative and financial status in 2009, is presented to the Commission for its consideration.

I. ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED AND RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2009

3. During 2009, CAPSA continued to promote research and development on agriculture for the development of a policy environment to enhance the living conditions of rural populations in the Asia-Pacific region. Since the fifth session of the Governing Council, held in March 2009, CAPSA has: (a) emphasized more explicitly the regional character and implications of CAPSA projects; (b) explored alternative ways of generating resources; (c) broadened the Centre's focus to include sustainable agriculture and food security, not just secondary crops, as part of a process to increase the Centre's visibility and relevance in the Asia-Pacific region; (d) taken initial steps towards stimulating greater technical cooperation among member States through the holding, in December 2009, of a workshop entitled "Developing an

¹ Commission resolution 65/4, annex.

inclusive strategic plan for CAPSA”; and (e) implemented actions to strengthen the Centre’s human resources.

4. Relationships with national and international partner organizations on the basis of a strengthened platform of collaboration were enhanced through the following actions:

(a) The holding of a two-day (7 and 8 December 2009) facilitated workshop, entitled “Developing an inclusive strategic plan for CAPSA”, which was attended by 34 participants, representing 13 member States, including 5 Technical Committee members, representatives of 13 research centres, including 4 from the private sector, and 1 donor agency;

(b) The holding of the fifth session of the CAPSA Technical Committee, in Bogor, Indonesia, on 9 December 2009;

(c) Networking activities at the “Pro-Poor Policy Formulation, Dialogue and Implementation at the Country Level: Indonesia” workshop, organized by the Indonesian Centre for Agriculture, Socio-Economic and Policy Studies (ICASEPS) at Badan Litbang Pertanian, Jakarta;

(d) Networking activities at a round-table discussion on the theme “Development of food agro-industry from the perspective of rural development”, organized in Jakarta by the Indonesian National Planning Agency;

(e) The promotion of CAPSA at the Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security: A Sharing of Experience between Indonesia and Thailand in Addressing Current Issues, held in Bogor;

(f) Assistance in the organization of and networking activities at the second Governors’ Climate and Forests Workshop and the second Governors’ Global Climate Summit, held in Los Angeles, United States of America, with representatives of dozens of states of the United States, five Brazilian states and five Indonesian provinces. The workshop laid the groundwork for the inclusion of issues relating to emissions from deforestation and forest degradation/carbon credits/poverty alleviation for forest communities in any post-Kyoto Protocol agreement. Inputs from the workshop were used to design strategies and approaches to strengthen the argument for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in addressing global warming/climate change at the United Nations Climate Change Conference, held in Copenhagen in December 2009;

(g) Participation in a seminar on the theme “The role of ESCAP in response to sustainable agriculture development through CAPSA”, held at the Embassy of Indonesia in Bangkok;

(h) Efforts to re-engage the Japan International Research Centre for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS) and the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) through direct communications with their President and Regional Representative, respectively. JIRCAS is preparing its next multi-year development plan and will inform CAPSA when it is finished; CIRAD remains committed to strengthening its relationship with CAPSA, and offered to place a senior researcher at the Centre in 2010;

(i) Exploring the possibility of partnering with the Secretary’s Office of Global Women’s Issues, United States Department of State, which has a task force

looking into Asia-Pacific food security issues, a priority of the current United States Administration.

5. Furthermore, the following advocacy initiatives were undertaken in an effort to increase the Centre's visibility and promote its unique role in the Asia-Pacific region in addressing poverty reduction, food security and sustainable agriculture in a changing climate environment:

(a) An ESCAP technical mission to Myanmar was conducted in November 2009 to meet with the United Nations country team for Myanmar and discuss enhanced cooperation and proposed ESCAP country initiatives for both the short and the long term. As a result of that direct and productive engagement with the Myanmar country team, there is improved goodwill, an interest in partnering and a better understanding of the proposed ESCAP role and niche in undertaking a development partnership programme in Myanmar within the context of the overall United Nations mission in the country; a commitment to maintaining a United Nations coordinated response to assist Myanmar; and an understanding about where ESCAP can add value with regard to existing and future initiatives;

(b) Networking activities with the Heads of the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD) and ICASEPS to explore expanded collaboration. Agreement was reached with regard to the identification of collaborative research projects and to the Centre's continuing to receive ICASEPS senior researchers to serve in the capacity of Programme Leader, Research and Development;

(c) Participation in and provision of input to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (Indonesia) prioritization workshop on issues related to economic growth, income-generation, climate change and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The Commission's presence through CAPSA was welcomed, as it allowed for a focus on priorities for Indonesia on the basis of lessons learned throughout the region. Food security was highlighted as a United Nations intervention under National Priority 3;

(d) Participation in and moderation of the ESCAP-Government of Myanmar second Development Partnership Round Table/Development Seminar, held in Myanmar, with Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz as the keynote speaker. A site visit was undertaken to the country's dry zone with Mr. Stiglitz and senior Myanmar Government officials. The round table/seminar provided a platform for the Government of Myanmar, ESCAP and other stakeholders to jointly identify priority rural economic development issues to address the abject poverty in the country, build a foundation for policy reform discussions and plan for annual ESCAP Development Partnership events. The visit to the dry zone provided input for the preparation by ESCAP of a proposal relating to the integration of rural economic and social development for improving livelihoods in the country's dry zone, which has been submitted to the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund (LIFT) for funding (see para. 18 below).

A. Strategic planning workshop

6. A strategic plan for CAPSA was produced for the March 2009 session of the Governing Council and submitted to the Commission at its sixty-fifth session, held in April 2009 (see E/ESCAP/65/25, annex IV).² The plan contains recommendations

² In its resolution 65/4 of 29 April 2009, the Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Governing Council.

for revitalizing the Centre, including turning it into a coordinating research institute and a regional member-driven centre of excellence focusing on poverty alleviation through secondary crops development, with special attention given to addressing food security, hunger and malnutrition.

7. As a follow-up to the strategic plan, CAPSA organized a facilitated workshop at which both members and non-members of the CAPSA Technical Committee reviewed past accomplishments of the Centre, assessed the recommendations adopted by the Commission at its sixty-fifth session and provided a concrete, strategic road map for the Centre going forward in 2010. During the workshop, 34 participants from 13 member States discussed the future of CAPSA, including how it might best refocus and strengthen its research coordination efforts.

8. It was agreed that the following strategic elements of CAPSA remained relevant:

(a) Its mandate: to promote the capacity of member States to formulate and implement policies and programmes for reducing rural poverty through sustainable secondary crop development;

(b) Its objective: to promote both a supportive policy environment in member countries to enhance the living conditions of the rural poor in disadvantaged areas, particularly those who rely on secondary crops for their livelihoods, and research and development on sustainable secondary crop development to alleviate poverty in the Asia-Pacific region;

(c) Its strategy: the coordination of socio-economic and policy research, networking and partnership with international organizations and key stakeholders and the production, packaging and dissemination of information and successful practices on poverty reduction, capacity-development and policy advisory services in order to improve the economic status of rural populations in the Asia-Pacific region.

9. Workshop participants offered to support CAPSA with the following actions for strengthening the human capacity of the Centre:

(a) China (Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences):

- (i) Exchange research scholars for cooperation research;
- (ii) Share research outputs on China's poverty reduction best practices;

(b) France (CIRAD): Place a senior researcher at CAPSA for part of 2010;

(c) Indonesia (ICASEPS): Collaborate with the community through a participative approach towards empowerment;

(d) Japan (JIRCAS):

- (i) Develop research proposals for funding agencies;
- (ii) Publish reports jointly with CAPSA;
- (iii) Invite CAPSA to project meetings;

(e) Republic of Korea (Rural Development Administration): Conduct collaborative research programmes;

- (f) Malaysia (Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute):
 - (i) Conduct collaborative research programmes;
 - (ii) Conduct joint projects;
- (g) Pakistan (Pakistan Agricultural Research Council): Accept CAPSA staff as volunteers to work in Pakistan to assist small farmers and support poverty reduction initiatives and organic farming systems;
- (h) Papua New Guinea (National Agricultural Research Institute):
 - (i) Share national/regional (Pacific) needs and priorities in areas of concern;
 - (ii) Seek funding from the Government of Papua New Guinea and regional organizations;
- (i) Thailand (Office of Agricultural Economics-Kasetsart University): Provide knowledge and technical assistance to support research and development projects;
- (j) Netherlands (Wageningen University):
 - (i) Provide academic support;
 - (ii) Supervise students (MSc/PhD);
 - (iii) Obtain funds from the European Union;
- (k) United States of America (International Programmes-Oregon State University):
 - (i) Facilitate exchanges with United States institutions for visiting scholars;
 - (ii) Include best practices and tools with regional relevance.

B. Fifth session of the Technical Committee

10. The fifth session of the CAPSA Technical Committee was held in Bogor, Indonesia, on 9 December 2009. The fourth session of the Committee had been held in February 2008.

11. The preliminary outcomes of the Technical Committee session were based on significant input provided by the participants in the strategic planning workshop, focusing on a goal, a strategy, a workplan and a timeline.

12. Technical Committee members suggested that the goal for the CAPSA team over the next 10 years should be to transform the Centre from a resource-poor, underutilized, little-known institution to a highly visible, well-resourced, efficiently-run organization with a clear mandate and mission that is valued, supported and utilized by all member States.

13. It was proposed that the strategy to bring about the transformation be implemented in three stages. The first stage, which was implemented in December 2009, was to consult with a wide range of CAPSA partners on what the new CAPSA would look like, how best to go about the process of transformation and how CAPSA partner institutions could best assist in the process. The second stage was to validate the process and the elements of the new CAPSA with members of the Technical

Committee; this occurred in December 2009 and at the Governing Council session held on 23 March 2010.

14. The third stage will be to implement the process of transformation according to the following timeline: year 1; years 2 to 5; and years 6 to 10. Technical Committee members focused their discussion on action elements for implementation during years 1 and 2, as that will be the most critical period for revitalizing CAPSA, strengthening its human resources and mobilizing sufficient finances, networking with national agricultural research centres in the region and identifying partners for project collaboration.

15. CAPSA also continued to implement its two core programmes during the year: (a) the Research and Development Programme and (b) the Information Services and Database Programme.

C. Research and Development Programme

16. The Research and Development Programme conducted two projects during 2009:

(a) *Adding Value to Fresh and Processed Produce through Product Certification (CERT)*. The project (2007-2009) was aimed at capturing best practices in product certification to enable farmers or farmer associations to participate in the fresh and processed produce markets of the countries concerned and at disseminating the results to stakeholders in the respective countries through workshops and training. The Government of France funded the project in the amount of \$100,000; the project was implemented in Indonesia and the Philippines. The final report of CERT was completed in 2009 and uploaded on the CAPSA website;

(b) *Forecasting Food Security under El Niño in Asia and the Pacific*. The project, with implementation having commenced in 2009, is aimed at analysing the impact of climate change on food production and availability and at formulating and disseminating policy recommendations on the basis of the results of the study to offset the impact of the El Niño phenomenon on agricultural production and ensure food security in Asia and the Pacific. The project is funded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan in the amount of \$49,959.40.

17. Forecasting Food Security under El Niño in Asia and the Pacific will continue in 2010.

18. A new project is in the pipeline: ESCAP has submitted a proposal to the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund for a three-year initiative in Myanmar, where CAPSA is one of the lead institutions for implementation (see para. 5 above).

D. Information Service and Database Programme

19. In support of target groups having better/wider access to information about normative measures to alleviate rural poverty, the following knowledge products were generated:

(a) One working paper: "Adding value to fresh and processed produce through product certification" (Working Paper No. 104, published as soft copy, December 2009);

(b) Three issues of *Palawija News*;

(c) Six issues of *CAPSA Flash*;

(d) One new CAPSA “Profile”, presenting an overview of the work and mandate of CAPSA for distribution to key stakeholders.

20. The Centre operates a website, www.uncapsa.org, which provides information about CAPSA and its work, news items related to agriculture, rural development and secondary crops and access to downloadable CAPSA documents, all in an effort to better serve the needs of the Centre’s users and clientele.

21. Target group access to available knowledge is measured by counting the number of downloads of CAPSA publications and visits to the CAPSA website. These were as follows:

(a) Downloads: approximately 100,000 (a 4.5 per cent increase over 2008);

(b) Visits: approximately 97,600 (a negligible decrease from 2008).

22. All current and back issues of CAPSA publications continue to be uploaded to the CAPSA website and stored in an online library, the AgEcon Search website at the University of Minnesota, United States. All publications can be downloaded free of charge from the CAPSA website.

23. In addition to downloadable versions of *Palawija News* and *CAPSA Flash*, 156 publications, monographs and research papers were downloaded from the CAPSA website in 2009, an increase of 2.6 per cent compared with 2008.

24. The most popular CAPSA publications, as measured by the number of downloads, were:

(a) Monograph No. 49: *The Development of Secondary Crops-based Agribusiness in Indonesia: Its role in Improving Food Security and Poverty Alleviation*, proceedings of a national seminar, by I Wayan Rusastra, Togar Alam Napitupulu, Made Oka A. Manikmas and Firdaus Kasim (2007) (4,995 downloads in 2009);

(b) Working Paper No. 3: “Bibliography on soybean research in Indonesia 1978-1988” (1989) (1,851 downloads in 2009).

25. A draft matrix of research activities conducted throughout the Asia-Pacific region was produced by the Programme Leader, Research and Development, of CAPSA, focusing on three main categories: (a) sustainable agriculture, (b) food security and (c) climate change.

26. The CAPSA database provides statistical data focusing on secondary crops in Asia and the Pacific at the national, provincial and district levels. The data currently available cover 17 Asian and Pacific countries. The expansion of the database is ongoing, with data being added on a regular basis. The data have been widely used by policy-formulators, decision makers, researchers and university students worldwide through online media.

27. The members of the CAPSA Technical Committee proposed that the next Committee session be held in November 2010 and that it be organized around a special event, i.e., an expert group meeting.

II. SUMMARY OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2010

28. The proposed workplan for 2010-2011 has five integrated and interdependent strategic objective elements. The objectives have several activities associated with them as a direct result of the consultation process undertaken in Bogor during the fifth session of the Technical Committee. The objectives and their associated activities can be summarized as follows:

- (a) Increase and diversify resource mobilization, including tapping the private sector;
- (b) Optimize the Centre's human resources through a volunteer internship programme;
- (c) Make CAPSA a valued institution through the development of flagship products and programmes;
- (d) Enhance the Centre's networking capacity and identify collaborative research relationships with well-known international research institutes, foundations and donors;
- (e) Develop geographic cluster programmes;
- (f) Increase the Centre's visibility through roadshows, radio and television spots and a CAPSA celebrity or ambassador initiative.

29. In addition, CAPSA will continue to produce booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits through its information services and database unit. These will include three issues each of *CAPSA Flash* and *Palawija News* in 2010 and 2011. Technical material will continue to be uploaded on the CAPSA website. Finally, CAPSA will implement the final workshop for the El Niño project in Viet Nam in April 2010.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

A. Strengthening human resources

30. In response to the recommendation that the Executive Secretary provide CAPSA with sufficient human resources to enhance its capacity and fulfil its mandate, a Senior Economic Affairs Officer at the P-5 level serving as the Head of CAPSA took up his assignment in Bogor, Indonesia, late in August 2009. In addition, the ESCAP secretariat initiated the recruitment process for a Regional Adviser (P-4), an Associate Programme Officer (P-2) and a Team Assistant (GS-4).³

31. To further strengthen its human resource capacity, CAPSA recruited one Indonesian researcher on a part-time basis from ICASEPS. In addition to providing technical advice related to socio-economic and policy matters, the researcher serves as Programme Leader, Research and Development, within CAPSA and as a de facto focal point for the Ministry of Agriculture and other relevant ministries of the Government of Indonesia and Indonesian agricultural research centres.

³ The Centre's Associate Expert, who had been funded for two years through the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, completed his assignment in August 2009. A replacement has yet to be identified.

32. The recruitment of a Regional Adviser, the process of which is expected to be completed by mid-2010, will facilitate the delegation of some of the tasks currently being carried out by the Senior Economic Affairs Officer, namely, promoting knowledge networking; enhancing collaboration and exchange on the topical issues of food security and sustainable agriculture; and providing technical advice and capacity-building services to member States, partner institutes and donor agencies.

B. Financial resource mobilization

33. As at 31 December 2008, the institutional support account of CAPSA, comprising contributions from ESCAP members and associate members, had a balance of \$340,102. This amount was carried over into 2009.

34. In response to the recommendation that additional financial resources be provided to the Centre, CAPSA encouraged member States, in particular those on the Governing Council, to fulfil their financial commitments made during the sixty-fifth session of the Commission, in April 2009.⁴ As a result, contributions received from nine member States⁵ during 2009 amounted to \$142,881, including a financial contribution from the host country, Indonesia, totalling \$79,895 (see annex I). In addition, the Government of Indonesia contributed in-kind support of approximately Rp318.7 million (\$33,903). Total voluntary contributions received during 2009 were insufficient to cover all institutional costs, which amounted to \$169,367. Of the nine member countries making voluntary contributions in 2009, six, or 67 per cent, are Governing Council members.

35. CAPSA also received funds from the secretariat's regular budget (regular programme of technical cooperation (section 22)) in the amount of \$100,000 to use during the fourth quarter of 2009.⁶ This funding was a response to a proposal submitted by the Centre entitled "Building capacity in selected Asia-Pacific countries to effectively address poverty reduction through inclusive approaches focused on food security and sustainable agriculture". The funds were used to support a capacity-development workshop for 34 representatives from 13 countries in the region, with an overall focus on food security and sustainable agriculture.

36. An analysis of the Centre's financial situation shows that institutional support contributions have been fluctuating since 2005, peaking in 2006 at \$170,670.35 and trending downwards since. Voluntary contributions from member countries during 2009 declined 11 per cent compared with 2008 and 16 per cent from the high in 2006.

37. As mentioned above, CAPSA was able to keep its institutional expenditures low during 2009, at \$169,367, compared with \$228,682 in 2008, a reduction of 26 per cent (see annex II). However, low expenditures are an indication of the low volume of activity of the Centre during 2009. As activities pick up in 2010 and beyond, expenditure levels are expected to increase proportionately. Without a sufficient level of voluntary contributions from members and associate members, CAPSA would be facing a possible shortfall in funds to cover operational expenses in 2009 and 2010.

⁴ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 19* (E/2009/39-E/ESCAP/65/32), paras. 220-246. See also paras. 247-260.

⁵ The Philippines also made a 2009 contribution, becoming the tenth member State to do so. However, its contribution of \$9,911.54, made in January 2010, is not accounted for in the total.

⁶ Approximately 34 per cent of the total budget was spent on project activities in 2009. With only two months left in the fiscal year, there was insufficient time to spend all the budgeted funds. Therefore, CAPSA used funds for the more strategic capacity-building initiatives.

IV. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMISSION

38. The issues identified by the Governing Council at its sixth session for consideration by the Commission are set out in the report of the Governing Council (see annex III, paras. 1-9).

Annex I

CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2009

**Institutional support (joint contributions):
funds received as at 31 December 2009**

(United States dollars)

Country/area	Funds received in 2009
Bangladesh	1 000.00
Indonesia	79 895.83
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	4 000.00
Macao, China	3 000.00
Malaysia	9 985.00
Papua New Guinea	20 000.00
Republic of Korea	10 000.00
Sri Lanka	5 000.00
Thailand	10 000.00
Total	142 880.83

Annex II

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Institutional support and technical cooperation projects as at 31 December 2009

(United States dollars)

	Donor	Balance carried over 31 Dec. 2008	Contributions (2009)	Expenditures (2009)	Interest earned (2009)	Returned to donor 2009	Balance at 31 Dec. 2009
Institutional support	Joint contribution	180 981.05	62 985.00	75 820.89	4 509.72	1 149.50	173 804.38
	Government of Indonesia	159 121.07	79 895.83	93 546.70	4 005.04	-	149 475.24
Subtotal		340 102.12	142 880.83	169 367.59	8 514.76	1 149.50	323 279.62
Technical cooperation projects	ESCAP - France Cooperation Fund	26 814.75	-	5 704.58	611.30	-	21 721.47
	Japan International Research Centre for Agricultural Sciences	1 144.38	-	-	5.12	(1 149.50)	-
	Japan Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	-	49 959.40	15 366.57	1 182.00	-	35 774.83
Subtotal		27 959.13	49 959.40	21 071.15	1 798.42	(1 149.50)	57 496.30
Total		368 061.25	192 840.23	190 438.74	10 313.18	-	380 775.92

Annex III

REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL ON ITS SIXTH SESSION

I. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

1. The Governing Council endorsed the strategic actions for implementation in support of the strategic plan adopted at the fifth session of the Governing Council and the programme of work for 2010-2011, developed based on the outcome of the strategic planning workshop and the fifth session of the Technical Committee, held in Bogor, Indonesia, in December 2009.
2. The Governing Council welcomed the Technical Committee's recommendation to strengthen collaboration with the private sector in support of agribusiness development in the context of inclusive agricultural and rural development for food security and poverty alleviation and urged CAPSA to take necessary steps to ensure the achievement of this recommendation.
3. The Governing Council welcomed the firm commitment and action of the Executive Secretary of ESCAP in addressing the human and financial resource gaps of the Centre and expressed the hope that that support would continue in the future. The Governing Council also supported the recommendation of the Technical Committee that additional regular budget resources from ESCAP be provided to CAPSA to bridge any funding gaps in its institutional costs.
4. The Governing Council supported the recommendation of the Technical Committee that its members, in collaboration with CAPSA, become actively engaged in resource mobilization initiatives and project identification and development. It also recommended that CAPSA prepare an estimated budget for each strategic action for marketing CAPSA initiatives, effectively utilizing existing resources and prioritizing interventions during periods of funding gaps.
5. The Governing Council recommended that CAPSA take the necessary steps to expand its network with national agricultural research centres in the region as well as with the ESCAP regional institutions, particularly the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) and the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM), and establish collaborative projects with them to address poverty reduction, food security and sustainable agriculture.
6. The Governing Council also recommended that CAPSA take the steps necessary to engage its members and development partners in receiving staff secondments, hosting CAPSA activities and staff and identifying and more effectively utilizing focal points in each member State that are genuinely interested in assisting CAPSA in fulfilling its mandate.
7. The Governing Council agreed to a new name for the Centre, namely, "Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture", as proposed by the Technical Committee at its fifth session, in December 2009, for consideration by the Commission, taking into account that the Centre's unique character would continue to focus on secondary crops development as stipulated in its statute.
8. The Governing Council requested the Executive Secretary to urge member States at the sixty-sixth session of the Commission, to be held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, to provide and/or increase voluntary contributions to CAPSA pursuant to resolution 65/4.

9. The Governing Council agreed to limit the term of Technical Committee members to one 3-year term with the possibility of an extension. It also recommended that CAPSA develop rules and procedures to that effect.

II. PROCEEDINGS

A. Opening of the session

10. The Chair opened the session and invited the Executive Secretary of ESCAP to deliver an opening statement.

B. Report on the activities of CAPSA, including outcomes of the CAPSA Technical Committee session (Agenda item 4)

11. The Governing Council had before it the report of the Head of the Centre on agenda item 4. The report was introduced by the Head of the Centre.

12. The Head of CAPSA provided an overview of the key activities of the Centre and major developments and results in 2009, as well as matters calling for the attention of the Governing Council.

13. Statements were made by the representatives of the following countries: Bangladesh, China, France, Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand.

14. The Chair of the Governing Council commented on the comprehensive nature of the report of the Head of CAPSA, in particular efforts taken to revitalize the Centre and enhance its efforts to network with other national agricultural research centres in the region and to implement the Centre's two main programmes and the recommendations of the Technical Committee made during its fifth session, held in Bogor, Indonesia, on 9 December 2009.

15. The suggestion was made to the Governing Council that CAPSA utilize existing Internet-based communication technologies, in particular Facebook, with a view to enhancing interaction among Council members. It was also suggested that ways be explored of engaging non-Governing-Council members that are ESCAP member States with a view to their active participation in and contribution to the work programme of CAPSA.

16. The Governing Council suggested considering the possibility of nominating new Council members with terms coinciding with current membership, 2009-2012, in order to avoid a rolling membership, with sitting Council members having different term periods.

17. The Governing Council took note of a comment regarding lack of interaction among member countries in the post-session period and the need to review the process of identifying and utilizing member country focal points to expand project areas of CAPSA in the member States.

18. Addressing the issue of funding constraints, the Governing Council noted that member States' contributions were insufficient to cover the Centre's annual operating expenditures and encouraged CAPSA to overcome those funding constraints by developing project proposals for mobilizing financial resources from other donors.

19. The Governing Council noted the proposal of the Technical Committee to change the name of the Centre to the "Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through

Sustainable Agriculture”, keeping the current acronym, CAPSA, and maintaining the Centre’s inclusive nature. The Governing Council acknowledged the need to maintain the Centre’s unique niche in addressing poverty reduction through secondary crop farming systems development, despite a change of name, while at the same time noting the limited connotation and lack of concrete definition of “secondary crops” and the need to broaden the scope of the Centre and expand the Centre’s ability to mobilize financial resources.

20. The Governing Council supported the recommendation for term limits for Technical Committee members to one 3-year term renewable for a second term. CAPSA was requested to develop rules and procedures detailing the procedures for the term and selection of Technical Committee members.

21. The Governing Council noted that the SWOT analysis (analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) of CAPSA undertaken as part of the strategic plan and presented for discussion at the 2009 Governing Council session had identified weaknesses, and requested an update on progress in addressing them. Actions included translating research project findings into concrete policy recommendations for member countries; identifying mechanisms to mobilize greater voluntary financial contributions and human resources; enhancing networking with member States, partner institutes and donor agencies for the development of project proposals for internal or external funding and for the supervision of project implementation; and ensuring that the Centre emphasizes its regional focus as opposed to an Indonesia focus. These were discussed at the CAPSA Technical Committee session in December 2009.

22. The Governing Council made a note of the concern that the work of CAPSA, especially with its new mandate, should not duplicate initiatives and the respective mandates of the other four regional institutes of ESCAP. The Governing Council was reassured that changing the name of CAPSA would not change its mandate.

23. The Governing Council also noted the concern that the strategic action elements of CAPSA agreed to by the Technical Committee members should also support the work of other regional institutions of ESCAP.

**C. Presentation and discussion on the revised strategic plan of
CAPSA and proposed programme of work for 2010-2011
(Agenda item 5)**

24. The Governing Council had before it the report of the Head of the Centre on agenda item 5. The report was introduced by the Head of the Centre.

25. The Head of CAPSA provided an update on the status of the strategic plan produced for the session of the Governing Council held in March 2009 and a detailed description of the strategic action elements developed at the two-day strategic planning workshop and discussed and agreed upon by the Technical Committee at its fifth session, in December 2009, both held in Bogor, Indonesia.

26. Statements were made by the representatives of the following countries: Bangladesh, Indonesia and Philippines.

27. The Governing Council noted the appreciative comments regarding the work on the strategic action elements and that each identified activity have its associated budget requirement for successful implementation.

28. The Governing Council expressed appreciation to CAPSA and the Technical Committee for providing a comprehensive set of strategic action items and expressed strong support for their implementation.

29. The Governing Council noted the need for clarification of the term “agribusiness development”, contained in resolution 65/4 (para. 2 (b)), and was informed that it referred to the importance of engaging small farm-holders to enhance their business activities and the importance of partnering with the private sector in implementing CAPSA activities, including the provision of funding.

D. Report on the administration and financial status of CAPSA (Agenda item 6)

30. The Governing Council had before it the report of the Head of the Centre on agenda item 6. The report was introduced by the Head of the Centre.

31. The Head of CAPSA provided an overview of the current situation with regard to the administration and financial status of the Centre as at the end of 2009, as well as matters calling for the attention of the Governing Council.

32. Statements were made by the representatives of the following countries: Indonesia and Philippines.

33. The Governing Council urged member States to make their voluntary contributions to CAPSA.

34. The Governing Council noted the suggestion that voluntary contributions be allowed on an instalment basis throughout the year.

35. The Governing Council suggested that member States host or sponsor CAPSA activities, including through in-kind contributions.

E. Adoption of the report and closure

36. The Governing Council had before it a set of draft recommendations. The recommendations were adopted. The Governing Council then proposed that its seventh session be held in Malaysia in November 2010. It was also proposed that the sixth session of the Technical Committee be held in August 2010; a venue for the session was not proposed and would be decided later.

37. The Head of the Centre made a closing statement, and the Chair declared the session closed.

III. ORGANIZATION

A. Attendance

38. The session was attended by representatives of the following members of the Governing Council: Bangladesh, France, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

39. Representatives of the following members of the Commission attended as observers: China and Philippines.

40. Representatives of the secretariat of ESCAP attended the session.

41. Representatives of the following United Nations body attended: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific).
42. Representatives of the following non-governmental organization attended: International Potato Centre.

B. Election of officers

43. The Governing Council elected the following officers:

Chair: Tengku Mohd. Ariff Tengku Ahmad (Malaysia)
Vice-Chair: Hasil Sembiring (Indonesia)
Rapporteur: Abdul Kalam Azad (Bangladesh)

C. Adoption of the agenda

44. The following agenda was adopted:
1. Opening of the session.
 2. Election of officers.
 3. Adoption of the agenda.
 4. Report on the activities of CAPSA, including outcome of the CAPSA Technical Committee session.
 5. Presentation and discussion on the revised strategic plan of CAPSA and proposed programme of work for 2010-2011.
 6. Report on the administration and financial status of CAPSA.
 7. Discussion on the draft report of CAPSA to the Commission.
 8. Election of additional Governing Council members for the period 2009-2012 for adoption at the sixty-sixth session of the Commission.
 9. Date and venue of the next Governing Council session.
 10. Other matters.
 11. Adoption of the report.

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