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**Management issues: Technical cooperation activities of
ESCAP and announcement of intended contributions**

**Overview of technical cooperation activities and
extrabudgetary contributions****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

The present document provides an overview of the secretariat's technical cooperation activities in 2010 in the context of repositioning the Commission as a leading regional hub for inclusive and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. It describes the trends in technical cooperation to meet the key and emerging challenges confronting member States in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the shift towards a programmatic approach, including the development of multi-year capacity development programmes for 2011-2013 aligned with the emerging needs of member States. It also contains an overview of financial contributions, and the delivery and highlights of technical cooperation activities in 2010. The Commission may wish to review the present document and provide the secretariat with guidance on the direction of its technical cooperation programme.

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I. Trends in the ESCAP technical cooperation programme in 2010

1. The total cash contributions received by ESCAP in 2010 for technical cooperation from the regular budget and voluntary sources amounted to approximately \$16.8 million. The total volume of technical cooperation delivery in 2010 was approximately \$13.9 million. Further details are provided in section II below.

2. As a core feature of the “organizational effectiveness initiative”, the secretariat took concrete steps in 2010 to shift its technical cooperation work towards a capacity-development programmatic approach, which should enable ESCAP to achieve its longer-term programme objective: the promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, with the overall goal of achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Collectively, the eight mutually supportive ESCAP subprogrammes are aimed at achieving the following three development results: (a) member States would have more effective, inclusive and sustainable development policies for addressing development from a multidisciplinary perspective, for narrowing development gaps and for building resiliency; (b) global processes would be shaped by a stronger coordinated regional voice and countries would be provided with analytical and technical support in implementing international commitments; and (c) regional cooperation mechanisms and institutional frameworks would be in place to promote regional integration and inclusive development.

3. Capacity development is a core function of ESCAP. It involves a continuous process of developing the capacities of individuals,

organizations and communities to make development results achievable and sustainable.

4. In order to continue to strengthen the position of ESCAP as a leading regional hub for inclusive and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, the secretariat is developing multi-year capacity-development programmes aligned with the emerging needs of member States, with special emphasis on countries with special needs, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States. The consolidation of the secretariat's capacity-development approach into fewer but larger-scale, well-integrated programmes, which are anchored in the programme of work, is intended to increase the overall impact.

5. The secretariat has shifted its planning of capacity-development work for the period 2011-2013 towards a programmatic approach. Capacity-development concept notes for this period were developed and endorsed in 2010 under each of the ESCAP subprogrammes in order to capture the integrated and more focused approach, including interdivisional components and projects.

6. The programmatic approach also constitutes part of a resource mobilization strategy that is aimed at securing reliable and predictable extrabudgetary funding and addressing the capacity gaps and needs identified in the concept notes.

7. Strong partnerships with other organizations continued to be a high priority to ensure system-wide coherence at the regional level. The Asia-Pacific regional coordination mechanism (RCM), the membership of which comprises 30 United Nations and affiliated entities, further improved coordination and coherence among the work programmes of those regional entities towards the Delivering as One initiative.

8. The RCM members provided inputs to the report entitled *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in an Era of Global Uncertainty: Asia-Pacific Regional Report 2009/10*,¹ which was launched in Manila in February 2010, as well as the regional report entitled *Paths to 2015: MDG Priorities in Asia and the Pacific: Asia-Pacific MDG Report 2010/11*,² which was launched at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals in New York in September 2010, and the joint publication entitled *Striving Together: ASEAN and the UN*,³ which was presented at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Summit in Hanoi in October 2010. Furthermore, the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-UN Collaboration in Disaster Management⁴ was adopted at that meeting, with inputs from RCM members.

¹ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.II.F.10.

² United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.II.F.20.

³ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.II.F.3.

⁴ http://asean2010.vn/asean_en/news/48/2DAA08/Joint-Declaration-on-ASEAN-UN-Collaboration-in-Disaster-Management

II. Technical cooperation activities of the secretariat in 2010

A. Introduction

9. For the purpose of the present document, technical cooperation and capacity-development activities are defined as activities relating to (a) policy advocacy and dialogue on critical and emerging issues, including follow-up to global and regional commitments; (b) regional knowledge networking aimed at enabling the members and associate members of ESCAP to share and discuss information and experiences on good and innovative practices; and (c) training, advisory services and other forms of technical assistance aimed at strengthening the capacity of the members and associate members of ESCAP to formulate and implement effective policies and programmes in a range of key development areas.

10. ESCAP technical cooperation activities are funded from both the regular budget of the United Nations and extrabudgetary resources. The regular budget comprises (a) the regular programme of technical cooperation (section 22) and (b) the United Nations Development Account (section 35).⁵ Extrabudgetary resources are voluntary contributions provided by individual Governments, entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Such contributions can be in cash (funds-in-trust) or assistance in kind, including the secondment of experts on a non-reimbursable loan basis and the provision of host facilities and equipment.

B. Financial contributions in 2010 for technical cooperation

1. Cash contributions

11. The total cash contributions received by ESCAP in 2010 for technical cooperation, from sources within and outside the United Nations, amounted to \$16,767,706.19, which represents a 6 per cent increase over the total contributions in 2009 of \$15,816,144.19.

Table. Summary of financial contributions in 2010, by source

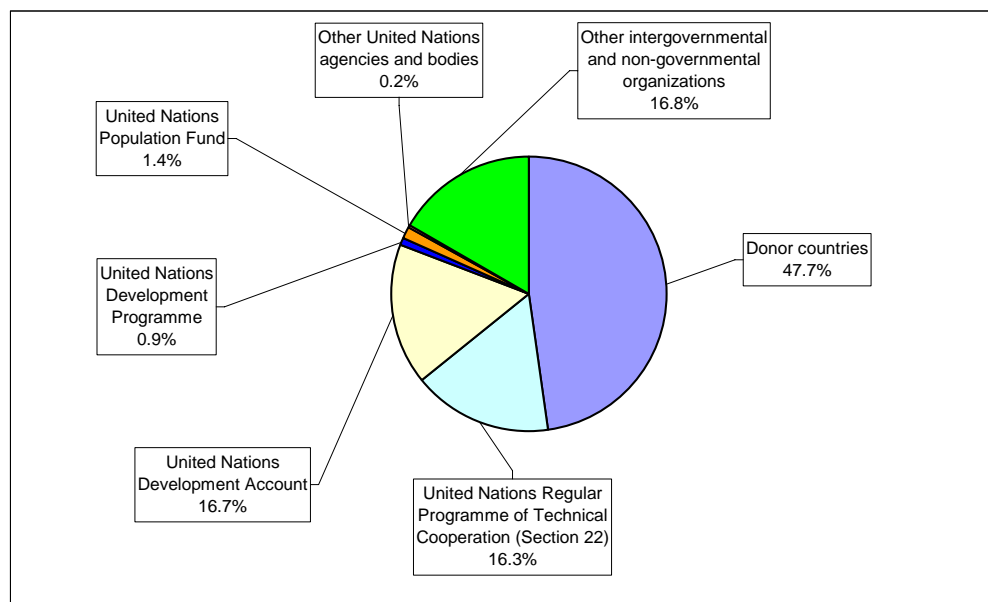
	United States dollars	Percentage
(a) Donor countries (see annex I)	8 007 508.11	47.7
(b) United Nations system (see annex II)		
1. United Nations regular programme of technical cooperation (section 22)	2 730 900.00	16.3
2. United Nations Development Account	2 802 800.00	16.7
3. United Nations Development Programme	145 642.32	0.9
4. United Nations Population Fund	239 866.35	1.4
5. Other United Nations agencies and bodies	28 358.00	0.2
(c) Other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (see annex II)	2 812 631.41	16.8
Total	16 767 706.19	100

⁵ Contributions for multi-year projects funded from the United Nations Development Account (section 35) are reported in the year in which they are received.

12. The sources for the above-mentioned contributions are shown in figure 1.

Figure 1. Financial contributions for technical cooperation in 2010, by source

(Percentage)



13. Donor countries contributed \$8,007,508.11 of the total funds received in 2010, of which approximately 73 per cent was received from developing member countries. Further details on the extrabudgetary resources (funds-in-trust) received from bilateral sources are provided in annex I.

14. The United Nations, from sources including sections 22 and 35 and funding from other United Nations entities, contributed \$5,947,566.67, representing 35.5 per cent of the total funds received in 2010. Further details are provided in annex II.A.

15. Other intergovernmental organizations and NGOs contributed \$2,812,631.41 of the total funds received in 2010. The largest contributor under this category was the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. More detailed information on contributions from other intergovernmental organizations and NGOs is given in annex II.B.

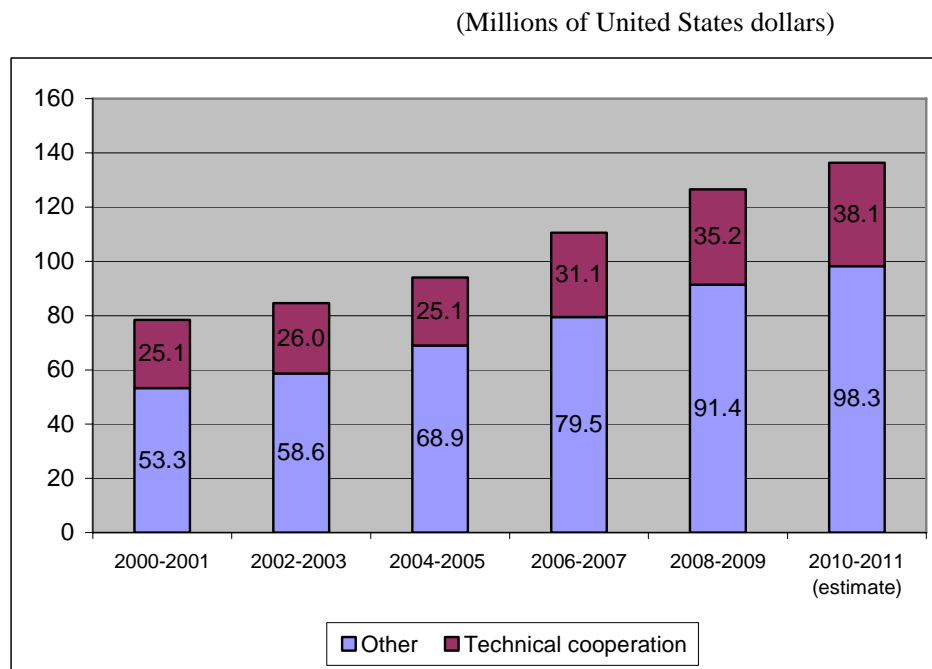
2. Contributions in kind

16. In 2010, ESCAP member States also provided, on a non-reimbursable loan basis, a total of 104 work-months of services of experts in various disciplines. Further details are provided in annex III. Moreover, in the context of many technical cooperation projects, government partner organizations provided various in kind contributions, such as conference and technical facilities and professional or secretarial support.

C. Delivery of technical cooperation in 2010

17. The evolution of the expenditures for technical cooperation as a portion of total ESCAP expenditures over the past 11 years is shown in figure 2.

Figure 2. Evolution of ESCAP expenditures, 2000-2011



18. The volume of the secretariat's technical cooperation delivery in 2010 totalled approximately \$13.9 million, of which approximately \$11 million was funded from extrabudgetary resources. Of that amount, approximately \$5.6 million was delivered under technical cooperation projects implemented by ESCAP operational divisions or other agencies under the ESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries. Approximately \$5.4 million was utilized for institutional support of the regional institutions and their technical cooperation activities.

19. The above-mentioned total technical cooperation delivery amount includes \$2 million from the United Nations regular programme of technical cooperation (section 22) and \$0.9 million from the United Nations Development Account (section 35). Section 22 resources were used to enhance capacities in economic and social policymaking, with special attention being given to the needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and Pacific island developing countries through the provision of advisory services, training activities and fellowships, including the sharing of experiences and good practices through South-South cooperation.

D. Highlights of technical cooperation in 2010

1. Promoting regional connectivity

20. ESCAP continued to promote the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks as the basis for an international integrated intermodal transport and logistics system. With three additional ratifications (Indonesia, Nepal and Turkey) in 2010, currently 28 member States are parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network.⁶ Meanwhile, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh ratified the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network⁷ in February and August 2010, respectively, bringing the total number of signatories to 22 countries, with 15 parties to that Agreement.

21. Capacity-development work in 2010 focused on the upgrading of infrastructure along the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks and making operational transport corridors, including capacity-building in public-private partnerships for transport infrastructure. The secretariat also continued to support the efforts to make operational international intermodal transport corridors in North-East and Central Asia, and it coordinated with member countries' efforts to monitor the performance of transport processes along the corridors.

22. In line with the Bangkok Declaration on Transport and Development in Asia (E/ESCAP/66/11, chap. IV), adopted by the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport in December 2009, the secretariat initiated the process of developing an intergovernmental agreement on dry ports. Institutional and regulatory issues were discussed by a regional expert group meeting in November 2010, while the structure of the proposed agreement was reviewed by the Committee on Transport at its second session, held in Bangkok in November 2010 (see E/ESCAP/67/7).

23. The first negotiation meeting on the draft annexes to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Road Facilitation Agreement was held in mid-2010. The secretariat also developed guidelines on national trade and transport facilitation committees, which often play a critical role in identifying obstacles and streamlining trade and transport processes at the national level. The secretariat continued to provide training for freight forwarders, multimodal operators and logistics service providers at the national level.

24. The secretariat implemented its trade facilitation programme, assisting member States in tackling inefficiencies and bottlenecks in international trade, through the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (UNNExT), in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The platform for knowledge-sharing and regional policy dialogue is provided by the Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum. More than 300 officials and trade facilitation stakeholders benefited from the capacity-building activities during 2010, including representatives from five least developed countries and seven landlocked developing countries.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2323, No. 41607.

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, No. 46171.

25. The *Business Process Analysis Guide to Simplify Trade Procedures* was published under UNNExT. The guide was well received and has been used in eight countries as the basis for trade facilitation capacity-building and single-window development workshops, as well as for conducting studies for the simplification of trade procedures. UNNExT was also instrumental in the development of the Mongolia Single Window Implementation Master Plan and in arranging the Multimedia Exhibition on Trade Facilitation 2010, which was held in Malaysia in October. The exhibition was jointly organized by ESCAP and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in collaboration with ASEAN, ECE, the World Customs Organization and the Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade.

2. Developing capacities in international trade research, investment and technology transfer

26. The analytical work of the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT) was increasingly cited by researchers in academia and international organizations; its modalities have been used as the best practice approach in establishing other networks. Databases established by ARTNeT on gravity modelling, trade costs, trade performance monitoring and services have become part of the standard tools used in evidence-based policymaking. Through the organization of research on the key trade-related issues in the region, the dissemination of policy briefs, alerts and working papers and the organization of capacity-building workshops and seminars, ARTNeT has successfully produced high-quality demand-driven and policy-oriented studies and enhanced analytical capacity in the region.

27. Given the important role of international trade and investment in the promotion of economic development and the reduction of poverty, ESCAP organized six training workshops and seminars together with ARTNeT, the World Trade Organization, UNCTAD and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to develop capacities in the region on (a) evidence-based policymaking; (b) access to analysis, databases and communities of experts; (c) deeper understanding of the various trade and investment rules and modalities; and (d) stronger negotiation skills relevant to the expansion of regional and global trade and investment.

28. The secretariat organized a special session on a systematic approach to Aid for Trade during the 13th Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis in Malaysia in June 2010. This event was aimed at sharing an assessment of the current status of Aid for Trade in various regions and at determining how researchers and policymakers could contribute to making Aid for Trade more effective. The session emphasized supply-side weaknesses in developing countries and the need to improve effectiveness of Aid for Trade initiatives in that area.

29. The secretariat continued its work to promote corporate social responsibility through capacity-building of the United Nations Global Compact Local Networks in Asia and the Pacific. A curriculum was developed and, along with a training programme, piloted in Sri Lanka; subsequently these were adopted by networks in Bangladesh, Indonesia and Pakistan. A total of 130 participants from 40 signatory companies were trained along with 30 trainers, who would act as resource persons in the future. A stakeholder dialogue on corporate social responsibility was co-organized with UNDP Maldives and that country's Ministry of Economic Development, which led to 22 companies signing up as founding members

of a local network in Maldives. Three local networks developed strategic/business plans with assistance from the secretariat.

30. The Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) continued to promote and strengthen national innovation systems in the region and, in accordance with Commission resolution 64/3 on promoting renewables for energy security and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, brought together experts in a consultative meeting to identify partners in, and specific activities that could be undertaken by, the institutional cooperation mechanism of APCTT in order to add value to other regional and global renewable energy technology networks. A renewable energy business-to-business forum was held in cooperation with the Nanjing International Technology Transfer Centre, China, to discuss options for strengthening cooperation in technology transfer, business partnerships and collaborative research and development. The search engine of APCTT, called Asia-Pacific Technology Information Tracking and Unified Data Extraction, or APTITUDE, was further upgraded to enable the search of 15 Asia-Pacific technology databases in the public domain.

3. Operationalizing green growth towards inclusive and sustainable development

31. The Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in Kazakhstan in September/October 2010, adopted the Astana “Green Bridge” Initiative: Europe-Asia-Pacific Partnership for the Implementation of “Green Growth” (see E/ESCAP/67/8). ESCAP has been supporting member States in executing the Regional Implementation Plan for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, 2006-2010,⁸ including the development of a roadmap based on the concept of economic system change and “ecological efficiency”. At the conference, Pacific small island developing States expressed firm commitment to a Pacific green growth initiative.

32. The secretariat successfully provided technical assistance in 2010 to a number of countries, including Cambodia (a national green growth roadmap was adopted by the Government); Kazakhstan (a national report on application of green growth policy tools was endorsed by an inter-ministerial working group); and Fiji (adopted a new law on green growth, green productivity and green jobs).

33. In Aceh, Indonesia, the secretariat promoted investments in natural capital and internalizing the costs of environmental benefits to support green growth. A “payments for ecosystem services” agreement was concluded between local communities and a water utility, which should result in improved watershed protection and increased income for the communities. This work was shared with South-East Asian policymakers at a regional workshop held in Viet Nam in July 2010.

34. In the water sector, green growth was promoted through eco-efficient water infrastructure development, including capacity-building activities involving 15 developing countries. Detailed studies have been concluded in eight countries and pilot projects were introduced in two countries. The Governments of Indonesia and the Philippines incorporated the concept of

⁸ See ESCAP, *The Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.IIF.31), Annex II.

eco-efficiency in water infrastructure into their five-year national development plans.

35. In cooperation with the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation, ESCAP organized the Regional Dialogue on Wastewater Management in Asia and the Pacific, which was held in Kuala Lumpur in June 2010, to promote the Hashimoto Action Plan II, particularly the so-called wastewater revolution in Asia. In following up on the commitments set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,⁹ training of trainers programmes on integrated water resources management were organized in Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. In support of the Asia-Pacific Water Forum, ESCAP also led regional efforts in the monitoring of investments and results in water resources, and organized a related expert group meeting in the Philippines.

36. In the energy sector, a series of policy studies identified key strategies to promote low-carbon development paths for the region; these were discussed at expert group meetings, including in China in April 2010. The studies advocated a co-benefits approach in developing energy policies, identifying appropriate technologies and developing human capacity. In the area of energy security, ESCAP continued to promote regional and subregional cooperation, particularly in the areas of energy trade, energy efficiency and renewable energy policies, as well as widening access to energy services in the context of the Millennium Development Goals.

37. In the area of sustainable urban development, two national workshops and two regional training workshops were held in 2010 in order to build capacity on pro-poor and sustainable solid waste management for secondary cities and small towns in Asia and the Pacific. An international training course on eco-efficient and sustainable urban infrastructure was organized in the Republic of Korea in November 2010 in partnership with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the International Urban Training Centre. Two consultative meetings on good urban governance set the stage for inter-agency collaboration in organizing the Asia-Pacific Urban Forum in 2011.

38. As a component of the Joint Programme of the United Nations Country Team in China on the China Climate Change Partnership Framework, the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM) and the Institute of Environment and Sustainable Development in Agriculture of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences jointly organized the International Seminar on Application of the Clean Development Mechanism Facility in the Agricultural Sector: Conservation Tillage and Household Biogas in Beijing in May 2010. The participants reviewed a study that had been commissioned by UNAPCAEM on application of the clean development mechanism in the agricultural sector; they also shared successful experiences and discussed mechanisms for implementing a strategy to promote wider application of the mechanism across the region.

⁹ Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (*Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap I, resolution 2, annex).

4. Fostering disaster risk reduction and ICT for development

39. ESCAP, in cooperation with the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and other regional partners, published *Protecting Development Gains: Reducing Disaster Vulnerability and Building Resilience in Asia and the Pacific: The Asia-Pacific Disaster Report, 2010*. The report, the first in a series, was released at the fourth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in the Republic of Korea in October 2010. It helped to improve the understanding of policymakers concerning disaster risks and the impact of disasters in the ESCAP region.

40. At the second session of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, held in Bangkok in November 2010, ESCAP launched phase I of the web-based Asia-Pacific Gateway on Disaster Risk Reduction and Development to promote the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction into socio-economic development.

41. In response to the catastrophic floods in Pakistan in 2010, ESCAP supported the organization of a high-level meeting to share information on recent assessments of the floods, exchange experiences on critical disaster risk reduction strategies and identify opportunities for regional cooperation. The outcome resulted in a mechanism developed by the tripartite core-group, comprising ESCAP, the United Nations Country Team and the Government of Pakistan, that would incorporate disaster risk reduction into early recovery plans and mainstream disaster risk reduction into future development plans of Pakistan.

42. The Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Disaster Monitoring and Early Warning, Particularly Drought, which is aimed at providing satellite information-based products and services to assist the efforts of countries in drought management, was launched in September 2010 under the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development. Member States (China, India, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and Thailand) and several international organizations (World Meteorological Organization, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, Typhoon Committee, Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization) expressed their intention to support the mechanism.

43. By the end of 2010, countries benefiting from the previously mentioned ESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund, which had programmed approximately \$9.1 million for 14 projects, of which 8 were ongoing as of December 2010. The key donors to the Fund, the Governments of Thailand and Sweden, agreed to broaden its scope to include overall disaster and climate preparedness.

44. Among the notable results of the Fund is the Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES), which became operational in 2010. Several more countries have officially joined that system: Bangladesh, Mongolia, Philippines and Timor-Leste.

45. ESCAP was instrumental in integrating disaster risk reduction into the formulation of the programming cycle 2011-2015 of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Maldives, as well as integrating RIMES into that country's national disaster risk reduction programme. Similarly, ESCAP advisory services furnished to the Government of Bhutan for reviewing implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-

2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters¹⁰ was also put to use for formulating capacity-development strategies and mobilizing support for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into the country's five-year development plans.

46. The Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (APCICT) initiated a new project on strengthening ICT for development education in institutions of higher learning, which is aimed at enhancing coverage of such technologies in university curricula, as well as for creating a cadre of future leaders in that field. The flagship programme of APCICT, "Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders", was expanded to Africa by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, and efforts are under way to introduce it to Western Asia and to Latin America in partnership with the respective regional commissions.

5. Striving towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the context of the global financial crisis

47. Through the tripartite partnership involving ESCAP, ADB and UNDP, two reports were launched in 2010 as mentioned previously: *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in an Era of Global Uncertainty: Asia-Pacific Regional Report 2009/10* and *Paths to 2015: MDG Priorities in Asia and the Pacific*. The reports assessed the progress of countries in the region in achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the context of the recent economic crisis and suggested policy options for addressing multiple challenges in relation to the Goals. The reports noted that impressive progress was being made in the Asia-Pacific region on poverty reduction, although there were widening gaps both within and between countries.

48. The Partnership Dialogue on Developing and Implementing MDG-based National Development Strategies in Asia-Pacific Countries was held in Phnom Penh in December 2010. It was organized by ESCAP in collaboration with the National Committee for ESCAP, the Government of Cambodia, ADB and UNDP. The key objective of the meeting was to contribute to the capacity development of senior policymakers in countries with special needs so that they could develop and implement Goal-based national development strategies and improve basic service delivery systems in achieving the Goals by 2015.

49. The ESCAP-organized High-level Consultation on the G20 Seoul Summit: Perspectives from Asia-Pacific, held in Bangkok in October 2010, provided a timely platform to discuss non-G20 member and regional perspectives on the agenda of the next G20 summit. Senior officials from 26 ESCAP member States participated. The chair's summary of the consultation highlighted key issues related to growth and recovery, narrowing development gaps, financial stability and reforms in global governance, all of which were communicated to the G20 summit chair.

50. ESCAP and the Government of Bangladesh jointly organized the High-level Asia-Pacific Policy Dialogue on the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, which was held in Dhaka in January 2010. The dialogue was organized in close cooperation with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing

¹⁰ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

States. It was noted that, although some progress had been made in achieving the key objectives of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,¹¹ the least developed countries continued to suffer from multiple development challenges, compounded by the food, fuel and financial crises and climate change. Increased international support was needed for these countries to meet their development challenges more effectively.

51. In the Pacific subregion, the secretariat of ESCAP and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs organized the Pacific High-level Dialogue on the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which was hosted by the Government of Vanuatu in Port Vila in February 2010. That meeting reviewed the progress made by Pacific small island developing States in implementing the Mauritius Strategy¹² and expressed concern about the restraining impact of the global economic crisis on such States (see E/ESCAP/66/1). It recommended a number of remedial strategies to address the impact of the crises. The meeting noted that, while there had been some success in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, none of the Pacific small island developing States is on track to meet all the Goals by 2015.

52. The Centre for the Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (CAPSA) produced country studies on Indonesia, Malaysia and Viet Nam, which are aimed at identifying the impact of climate change characterized through the El Niño phenomenon on staple crop production.

53. UNAPCAEM, in collaboration with the Philippine Rice Research Institute, Centre for Appropriate Technology and Development of the Ministry of Primary Industries of Fiji and the Academy of Agricultural Sciences of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, delivered training programmes on hybrid rice cultivation technologies tailored to local conditions in those countries.

6. Building social foundations for more inclusive and resilient societies

54. ESCAP continued its efforts to enhance the capacity of policymakers and practitioners to formulate policies and programmes aimed at accelerating the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities¹³ through a series of stakeholder consultations and capacity-building workshops. An expert group meeting-cum-stakeholder consultation to review the implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012¹⁴ was held in Bangkok in June 2010. It brought together 43 experts from Governments and disabled people's organizations, as well as representatives of intergovernmental and international organizations, to review the implementation of the Decade. The meeting helped to build consensus on the need for the establishment of

¹¹ A/CONF.191/13, chap. II.

¹² See *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

¹³ General Assembly resolution 61/106, annex I.

¹⁴ See Commission resolution 58/4 of 22 May 2002.

a new Asian and Pacific decade to promote the rights of persons with disabilities.

55. ESCAP facilitated regional cooperation to promote the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families¹⁵ and the importance of harnessing international migration to support longer-term development outcomes. The Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Global Forum on Migration and Development was convened in Bangkok in September 2010 by the Asia-Pacific Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration, including Human Trafficking; the meeting was co-chaired by ESCAP and the International Organization for Migration. The outcome statement enabled government representatives to better negotiate their position at the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held in Mexico in November 2010.

56. In recognition of the pressing challenges facing countries across Asia and the Pacific as a result of their rapidly ageing societies, ESCAP, jointly with HelpAge International, convened the Regional Seminar on Health Promotion and Active Ageing in Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok in November 2010. Experts from Governments, civil society and international organizations made concrete recommendations for action by Governments to address the multifaceted health issues and challenges confronting older persons in the region.

57. In September 2010, ESCAP convened in Bangkok a regional workshop on strengthening national capacities to collect statistics on violence against women in the Asia-Pacific region to better enable countries to measure violence against women regularly and appropriately. The United Nations Secretary-General's Campaign to End Violence against Women (UNiTE) was launched in Asia and the Pacific in November 2010 under the auspices of the Thematic Working Group on Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality, which was co-chaired by ESCAP and UN Women.

58. ESCAP continued to contribute to the development of international standards concerning the informal sector, informal employment and disability measurement. A previous interregional project on the informal sector, which was directed by ESCAP, led to further interregional work on informal sector statistics under the leadership of the Economic Commission for Africa. The work on disability measurement helped to build strong disability measurement expertise within participating national statistical offices in line with international standards. The interregional collaboration in these areas helped to achieve increased international recognition of the important role of regional commissions in contributing to the development of international recommendations and standards.

7. Building statistical capacity

59. ESCAP developed a regional programme for the improvement of economic statistics in Asia and the Pacific, which was endorsed by the ESCAP Committee on Statistics, at its second session, held in Bangkok in December 2010 (see E/ESCAP/67/12). The Committee also endorsed a core set of economic statistics developed by ESCAP and other development partners, as a guideline for enhancing the capacity of national statistical systems in Asia and the Pacific.

¹⁵ General Assembly resolution 45/158, annex.

60. In June 2010, country experts from 17 member States participated in the Regional Forum on the Improvement of Vital Statistics and Civil Registration in Asia and the Pacific, which was organized by ESCAP in close collaboration with ADB, UNDP and the World Health Organization. The forum produced an outcome statement which called upon Governments, with the support of development partners, to take collective action to improve vital statistics and civil registration.

61. The Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) launched its core skills framework for designing and implementing training programmes, and restructured its training programmes as an integral component of the ESCAP statistics subprogramme. In addition, SIAP strengthened collaboration with other United Nations agencies and international organizations in fulfilling its mandate on statistical capacity development in Asia and the Pacific.

62. ESCAP contributed to the formulation of an alternative methodology for the conduct of a census of population and housing in Afghanistan, for improving the reliability of time-bound sociodemographic and economic data at the national, provincial and district levels. The key outcome included a set of recommendations to support presentations to the Government of Afghanistan and the international development community on the proposed methodology. In addition, stronger collaboration was forged between ESCAP, the United Nations Country Team and the Government of Afghanistan in the formulation of the Afghanistan National Statistical Plan and related capacity-development programmes.

III. Conclusion

63. The secretariat was able to record much progress in strengthening its technical cooperation and capacity-development work to support the Commission's goal of inclusive and sustainable economic and social development, including a significant increase in both cash contributions and project delivery in 2010. This would not have been possible without the valuable support of ESCAP donors and development partners.

64. ESCAP is shifting its technical cooperation work to a programmatic approach through the development of integrated capacity-development programmes for 2011-2013 that are aligned with the emerging needs of member States. This will sharpen the focus and increase the impact of the secretariat's capacity-development programmes for member States, with special attention being paid to the requirements of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and Pacific island developing countries and territories. Furthermore, the secretariat will continue to create the necessary strategic and operational synergies with United Nations entities and subregional organizations with a view to ensuring United Nations system-wide coherence at the regional level.

Annex I

Extrabudgetary resources provided by bilateral donors in cash in 2010

(Funds-in-trust)

	Value in United States dollars
Azerbaijan	2 000.00
Bangladesh	19 000.00
Bhutan	2 000.00
Brunei Darussalam	16 000.00
China	501 858.49
Fiji	4 982.00
India	447 390.72
Indonesia	145 346.50
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	76 210.26
Japan	1 823 000.00
Lao People's Democratic Republic	4 055.00
Macao, China	31 000.00
Malaysia	44 985.00
Micronesia (Federated States of)	5 000.00
Mongolia	15 000.00
Myanmar	3 854.00
Netherlands	255 130.00
New Caledonia	5 517.60
Pakistan	22 348.76
Philippines	71 441.34
Republic of Korea	3 057 938.44
Russian Federation	1 200 000.00
Samoa	1 950.00
Singapore	15 000.00
Sri Lanka	20 000.00
Thailand	88 000.00
Tonga	1 500.00
Turkey	115 000.00
Viet Nam	12 000.00
Total extrabudgetary inputs from bilateral donors	8 007 508.11

Annex II

Technical cooperation resources provided by the United Nations system and by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in 2010

	Value in United States dollars
A. United Nations system	
(i) Regular budget resources	
United Nations regular programme of technical cooperation (section 22)	2 730 900.00
United Nations Development Account	2 802 800.00
Subtotal (i)	5 533 700.00
(ii) Extrabudgetary resources	
United Nations Development Programme	145 642.32
United Nations Population Fund	239 866.35
Other United Nations agencies and bodies	28 358.00
Subtotal (ii)	413 866.67
Subtotal of resources from the United Nations system (i) + (ii)	5 947 566.67
B. Other organizations	
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	1 791 240.00
China Disabled Persons' Federation	10 000.00
European Union	211 802.22
International Development Research Centre	267 071.58
Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency	100 000.00
Korea Energy Economics Institute	25 500.00
Korea Energy Management Corporation	173 568.50
Korea Expressway Corporation	40 680.00
World Trade Organization	97 869.11
Zhongshan College, China	94 900.00
Subtotal of extrabudgetary resources from intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations	2 812 631.41
Grand total	8 760 198.08

Annex III

Extrabudgetary assistance in kind (non-reimbursable loans) in 2010

Japan

(Total 12 work-months)

Mr. Shoji Matsubara
Expert on Space Technology Applications
Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk
Reduction Division
12 work-months

Republic of Korea

(Total 92 work-months)

Mr. Dae-Young Ju
Expert on Environment Policy
Environment and Development Division
1 work-month

Mr. Won-Tae Kim
Expert on Environment Policy
Environment and Development Division
11 work-months

Mr. Kim Dong Cheol
Expert on Information, Communication and Space Technology
Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk
Reduction Division
2 work-months

Mr. Woo Young Gyu
Expert on Information and Communication Technology
Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk
Reduction Division
10 work-months

Mr. Song Ouk-Heon
Expert on International Finance
Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division
12 work-months

Mr. Jehak Jang
Expert on Programme Management
Programme Management Division
10 work-months

Mr. Duek Yung Ko
Expert on Social Policy
Social Development Division
12 work-months

Mr. Daehi Lee
Expert on Trade and Monetary Cooperation
Trade and Investment Division
12 work-months

Mr. Moo-Young Jo
NRL Expert on Railway Transport
Transport Division
12 work-months

Mr. Jong Cheon Son
Expert on ICT Programme and Training
APCICT
5 work-months

Ms. Hui-Suk Yang
Administrative Expert
APCICT
5 work-months
