

Economic and Social Council

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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Committee on Environment and Development

Seventh session

Bangkok and online, 29 November-1 December 2022

Report of the Committee on Environment and Development on its seventh session

I. Matters calling for action by the Commission or brought to its attention

A. Matters calling for action by the Commission

1. The following recommendations of the Committee on Environment and Development are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) for its consideration and possible action:

Recommendation 1

The Committee on Environment and Development recommends that the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, at its seventy-ninth session, endorse the Ministerial Declaration on Protecting Our Planet through Regional Cooperation and Solidarity in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution.

Recommendation 2

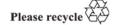
The Committee on Environment and Development encourages the members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to work collaboratively towards the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Protecting Our Planet through Regional Cooperation and Solidarity in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Commission

2. The following decisions adopted by the Committee are brought to the attention of ESCAP:

Decision 1

The Committee on Environment and Development adopts the Ministerial Declaration on Protecting Our Planet through Regional Cooperation and Solidarity in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution.



Decision 2

The Committee on Environment and Development adopts the terms of reference of the Technical Expert Group on Environment and Development as orally amended (ESCAP/CED/2022/3/Rev.1, annex) and requests the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to seek the nomination of experts by the members and associate members of the Commission prior to the first meeting of the Technical Expert Group.

II. Organization

A. Opening, duration and organization of the session

3. The Committee held its seventh session in Bangkok and online from 29 November to 1 December 2022. The session was opened by a member of the bureau of the sixth session of the Committee.

B. Attendance

- 4. Representatives of the following members of ESCAP attended: Australia; Bangladesh; Cambodia; China; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Fiji; France; Georgia; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Kazakhstan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Mongolia; Nepal; New Zealand; Pakistan; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Samoa; Sri Lanka; Tajikistan; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Türkiye; United States of America; Uzbekistan; and Viet Nam.
- 5. A representative of Germany, a Permanent Observer to ESCAP, also attended.
- 6. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and funds also attended: International Atomic Energy Agency; International Labour Organization (ILO); International Organization for Migration (IOM); International Telecommunication Union; United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); and United Nations Industrial Development Organization.
- 7. Representatives of the Economic Cooperation Organization, an intergovernmental organization, attended.
- 8. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and other entities also attended: Alexis Foundation; Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact; Asia Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism; Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs; German Agency for International Cooperation; India Water Foundation; International Association for Religious Freedom, Coordination Council for South Asia; International Council of Women; International Federation of Social Workers; Sacred Military Constantinian Order of Saint George; Thailand Clean Air Network; UNEP Major Group for Children and Youth; and Urbanice Malaysia.
- 9. In accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure of ESCAP, the Chair and Vice-Chairs examined the credentials of all the representatives and found them to be in order.

C. Election of officers

10. The Committee elected the following officers for the senior officials segment:

Chair: Mr. Amenatave V. Yauvoli (Fiji)
Vice-Chairs: Ms. Huda Ali Shareef (Maldives)

Mr. Davaadash Sambuu (Mongolia)

11. The Committee elected the following officers for the ministerial segment:

Chair: Mr. Bat-Ulzii Bat-Urdene (Mongolia)

Vice-Chairs: Ms. Vilaykham Phosalath (Lao People's Democratic

Republic)

Ms. Zulfiya Suleimenova (Kazakhstan)

D. Agenda

12. The Committee adopted the following agenda:

Senior officials segment

- 1. Opening of the senior officials segment:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
- 2. Review of the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development for Asia and the Pacific, 2017.
- 3. Protecting our planet through regional cooperation and solidarity in Asia and the Pacific.
- 4. Other matters.

Ministerial segment

- 5. Opening of the ministerial segment:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of agenda.
- 6. Strengthening regional collaboration to protect our planet.
- 7. Other matters.
- 8. Adoption of the ministerial declaration on environment and development for Asia and the Pacific, 2022.
- 9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its seventh session.

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E. Other events

- 13. The following side events and partnership events were held in conjunction with the Committee session:
- (a) 29 November 2022, side event: "Asia-Pacific finance round table", organized by the Alexis Foundation;
- (b) 29 November 2022, side event: "Managing the risk of a temperature overshoot in Asia and the Pacific", organized by the Energy and Resources Institute and the Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative of the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs;
- (c) 30 November 2022, side event: "Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia: challenges, perspectives and opportunities", organized by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan;
- (d) 30 November 2022, side event: "Strengthening the environment-health nexus and One Health in Asia and the Pacific", co-hosted with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, UNEP and the World Health Organization;
- (e) 30 November 2022, partnership event: "Lessons for building an air quality management framework for the Asia-Pacific region", organized by the Governments of Maldives, Mongolia and the United States of America;
- (f) 30 November 2022, partnership event: "Promoting a regional approach to climate-related mobility in the Pacific", co-hosted with the ESCAP Subregional Office for the Pacific, IOM, ILO, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and the Platform on Disaster Displacement;
- (g) 30 November 2022, partnership event: "Urban-ACT: integrated climate action for low-carbon and resilient cities", co-hosted with the German Agency for International Cooperation.

III. Chair's summary

14. The discussions held during the session have been summarized in a Chair's summary (see annex II).

Annex I List of documents

Symbol	Title	Agenda item
General series		
ESCAP/CED/2022/1	Review of the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development for Asia and the Pacific, 2017	2
ESCAP/CED/2022/2	Protecting our planet through regional cooperation and solidarity in Asia and the Pacific	3
ESCAP/CED/2022/3	Terms of reference of the Technical Expert Group on Environment and Development	3
ESCAP/CED/2022/3/Rev.1	Terms of reference of the Technical Expert Group on Environment and Development	3
ESCAP/CED/2022/4	Report of the Committee on Environment and Development on its seventh session	
Limited series		
ESCAP/CED/2022/L.1	Annotated provisional agenda	1 (c)
ESCAP/CED/2022/L.2	Draft report	9
ESCAP/CED/2022/L.3	Ministerial Declaration on Protecting Our Planet through Regional Cooperation and Solidarity in Asia and the Pacific	8
Information series		
ESCAP/CED/2022/INF/1	Operationalizing the environment-health nexus in Asia and the Pacific	3
ESCAP/CED/2022/INF/2	Sustainable mechanization-based solutions for climate-smart agriculture in Asia and the Pacific	3
ESCAP/CED/2022/INF/3	Trends in and impacts of urbanization in Asia and the Pacific	3
Information available online		
www.unescap.org/events/2 022/ced7	Information for participants	
www.unescap.org/events/2 022/ced7	List of participants	
www.unescap.org/events/2 022/ced7	Tentative programme	

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Annex II

Chair's summary of proceedings of the seventh session of the Committee on Environment and Development

I. Introduction

1. Owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the seventh session of the Committee on Environment and Development was held, at the ministerial level, in Bangkok and online from 29 November to 1 December 2022. The senior officials segment was held on 29 November and the ministerial segment was held on 1 December. On 29 November, two side events were held and, on 30 November, one side event and three partnership events, as well as the fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean, were held.

II. Summary of discussions

A. Review of the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development for Asia and the Pacific, 2017 (agenda item 2)

- 2. The Committee on Environment and Development had before it the note by the secretariat on the review of the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development for Asia and the Pacific, 2017 (ESCAP/CED/2022/1).
- 3. Representatives of the following members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) made statements: China; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; and Tajikistan.
- 4. A representative of the International Federation of Social Workers, a non-governmental organization, made a statement.
- 5. The secretariat gave a presentation on its review of progress made in the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development for Asia and the Pacific, 2017. Since 2017, there had been marked changes in support for climate action and strengthened stewardship of natural resources at the global level and by countries in the region. Information was shared on the work done by ESCAP under the subprogramme on environment and development and on the results of a survey of expert views on environment and development challenges and progress in the region.
- 6. The following addressed the Committee as discussants: Programme Director of the City Taskforce, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Ms. Yatsuka Kataoka; Core Associate at Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resources Management and Gender Specialist at the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism, Ms. Meena Bilgi; and Regional Director of the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Development Coordination Office, Mr. David Mclachlan-Karr.
- 7. The Committee noted that environmental degradation, exacerbated by climate change, had undermined hard-won development gains and contributions towards building sustainable and inclusive societies, threatening livelihoods, health and well-being and hampering progress in the reduction of poverty, hunger and inequality. It highlighted the challenges posed by unsustainable production and consumption patterns and the need to address environmental issues together with economic and social issues in an integrated

and balanced manner. ESCAP member States faced numerous challenges, including vulnerability to climate change, declining water security from the melting of glaciers and economic losses arising from natural disasters, despite the low share of some countries' emissions compared to the global total.

- 8. The Committee welcomed member States' efforts in harmonizing both nature conservation and development and commended them for making collective progress towards achieving carbon neutrality, meeting energy and emissions reduction targets and enacting supportive carbon neutrality legislation and carbon pricing regulations. Some representatives urged States to promote investments in a green taxonomy, take climate action in the areas of forestry and land use, adopt renewable energy strategies and develop action plans on marine plastic debris and green transformation for a just transition.
- 9. The Committee expressed strong support for multilateral actions and stressed the need for a united position to solve emerging and existing environmental problems. Meeting ambitious commitments required meaningful implementation efforts, a spirit of constructive cooperation and collective action. Furthermore, all stakeholders and countries across the region needed to come together to take step-by-step action, intensify dialogues, share knowledge and best practices, build capacity and facilitate technology development and transfer.
- 10. The Committee noted the support provided by ESCAP for regional cooperation in the areas of climate change, air pollution, agricultural mechanization and oceans, and the need to build on existing ESCAP frameworks. The North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation was cited as a model of transboundary cooperation. Continued support for the work of ESCAP was expressed.
- 11. The Committee welcomed member States' regional and multilateral cooperation initiatives, including the Tripartite Environment Ministers Meetings, the launch of the landmark Group of 20 (G20) Just Energy Transition Partnership, the G20 decision to prioritize oceans and efforts to accelerate the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 14 and the establishment of the Regional Capacity Centre for Clean Seas. It also welcomed the intention of member States to strengthen cooperation in the areas of sand and dust storms, air pollution, land degradation, climate change adaptation and the coastal and marine agenda in the context of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). It further welcomed the initiative to preserve glaciers through the proclamation of 2025 as the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation and the establishment of a United Nations trust fund.
- 12. Furthermore, the Committee welcomed the technical cooperation support provided by member States, including for the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the provision of financial, technical and capacity-building assistance for developing countries.
- 13. The Committee took note of the importance of the work done by social workers in communities hardest hit by climate change, and called for immediate responses to climate change that were transparent and accountable, a greater focus on the role of civil society, strengthened public collective action and platforms for giving voice to the people.

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B. Protecting our planet through regional cooperation and solidarity in Asia and the Pacific (agenda item 3)

- 14. The Committee had before it notes by the secretariat on protecting our planet through regional cooperation and solidarity in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/CED/2022/2) and on the terms of reference of the Technical Expert Group on Environment and Development (ESCAP/CED/2022/3), as well as information documents on operationalizing the environment-health nexus in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/CED/2022/INF/1), sustainable mechanization-based solutions for climate-smart agriculture in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/CED/2022/INF/2) and trends in and impacts of urbanization in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/CED/2022/INF/3).
- 15. Representatives of the following members of ESCAP made statements: China; Fiji; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Maldives; and Sri Lanka.
- 16. A representative of the open-ended working group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, established by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, made a statement.
- 17. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and other entities made statements: Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact; and India Water Foundation.
- 18. The Committee benefited from a presentation by the secretariat on enhancing regional cooperation to address environmental challenges in the Asia-Pacific region. The need for strengthened regional collaboration and solidarity to take robust action to solve environmental issues in Asia and the Pacific and meet the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was emphasized. Enhanced collaboration for effective international environmental governance and multilateral processes was underscored, as was the importance of coordinated and complementary actions for addressing climate change, unsustainable urbanization, loss of biodiversity, ecosystem degradation, pollution and waste.
- 19. A youth member of the High-level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism, Ms. Poonam Ghimire, addressed the Committee.
- 20. The Chair of the working group that had led the drafting of the terms of reference of the Technical Expert Group on Environment and Development presented the terms of reference (ESCAP/CED/2022/3).
- 21. The Committee noted with appreciation the flagship report prepared by the secretariat to inform its deliberations. Member State representatives called for stronger collective action and collaboration, underscoring the importance of knowledge-sharing, capacity development and technical cooperation to support developing countries in addressing environmental and development challenges, including through South-South cooperation. One representative, who called for the role of national institutes, academic bodies and local governments to be recognized and promoted, provided specific examples of marine protection and plastic waste management initiatives that helped local governments to prepare action plans in line with national priorities. Member State representatives emphasized the role of nationally determined contributions and other action plans to facilitate the energy transition away from fossil fuels, improve air quality and promote clean ocean actions by engaging all levels of government and society. Representatives highlighted that it was urgent to increase climate financing for small island developing States

and to combat desertification and improve the resilience of affected communities.

22. Representatives of major groups highlighted the importance of climatesmart agriculture to improve livelihoods. They recommended integrating indigenous and scientific knowledge to enhance regional cooperation, underscoring the importance of the human rights of indigenous peoples and current challenges related to environmental conservation efforts, such as involuntary displacement from ancestral sites and territories.

C. Strengthening regional collaboration to protect our planet (agenda item 6)

- 23. Representatives of the following members of ESCAP made statements: Bangladesh; Cambodia; China; France; Indonesia; Japan; Kazakhstan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Maldives; Mongolia; Republic of Korea; Pakistan; Sri Lanka; Tajikistan; Thailand; Timor-Leste; and United States of America.
- 24. Representatives of the following offices of the Secretariat and other United Nations entities also made statements: International Atomic Energy Agency; United Nations Environment Programme; and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).
- 25. A representative of the Economic Cooperation Organization, an intergovernmental organization, also made a statement.
- 26. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and other entities made statements: Bangkok Metropolitan Administration; and Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact.
- 27. The Committee welcomed a ministerial round-table discussion on the topic "Strengthening regional collaboration to protect our planet" with the Minister of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia, Mr. Bat-Ulzii Bat-Urdene; the Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment of Cambodia, Mr. Eang Sophalleth; the Vice-Minister of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of Kazakhstan, Ms. Zulfiya Suleimenova; the Vice-Minister of Public Works and Transport of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Ms. Vilaykham Phosalath; the President of the National Institute of Environmental Research of the Republic of Korea, Mr. Dong Jin Kim; and the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand, Mr. Thalearngsak Petchsuwan.
- 28. The Committee welcomed a ministerial round-table discussion on the topic "The future of our oceans" with the Minister of Fisheries of Fiji and Oceans Champion, Mr. Semi Koroilavesau; the Minister of Tourism and of Natural Resources and Environment of Samoa, Mr. Toeolesulusulu Cedric Schuster; and the Deputy Minister of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia, Mr. Alue Dohong.
- 29. The Rapporteur for the fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean, Mr. Juvencio de Jesus Martins (Timor-Leste), presented the recommendations and key messages from that event, which had been held, on 30 November 2022, under the auspices of the Committee. At the fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean, participants had highlighted that ocean governance required national and local ocean and coastal assessments to be carried out and that such assessments should be informed by science and indigenous and traditional knowledge. Environmental rights, including the rights to access to information, public participation and access to justice, were integral elements. International

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action was needed to reach the target of protecting 30 per cent of the world's oceans by 2030. Given the impacts on supply chains, resilient and sustainable maritime connectivity with safer and greener port operations was required. Innovation and cybersecurity should be promoted by developing regulatory frameworks, greenhouse gases should be reduced through carbon pricing mechanisms and gender diversity in the maritime sector should be enhanced. Ocean accounting was seen as instrumental to the measurement, innovation, investment, management and planning of progress towards sustainable ocean development. Public-private financing arrangements should be made accessible to small and medium-sized enterprises in order to protect endangered ecosystems. In turn, that required better policy frameworks, including standards to mobilize private sector support to the blue economy and ocean-based solutions.

- 30. The Committee expressed concern about the impacts of environmental degradation and climate change on human health, well-being and socioeconomic development and urged for stronger regional collaboration and action to protect our planet. In addressing air pollution and climate change, the Committee pointed out key actions, including phasing out coal, transitioning to renewables, promoting sustainable mobility, enhancing control measures and strengthening regional collaboration on air quality monitoring, as well as on open data and information-sharing. The Committee welcomed the adoption of the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution and recommended leveraging synergies with existing multilateral cooperation mechanisms, such as the Asia-Pacific Clean Air Partnership, the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership and the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia. The Committee welcomed the announcement that Mongolia would host an Asia-Pacific high-level meeting on clean air in March 2023 in support of operationalizing the Regional Action Programme.
- The Committee reiterated its commitment to achieving carbon neutrality and net-zero emissions, supported by long-term low-emission development strategies and enhanced nationally determined contributions in line with the Paris Agreement. Best practices and opportunities on naturebased solutions, carbon pricing, carbon trading systems, ocean-based mitigation solutions and other emission reduction measures targeting carbonintensive industries were shared. In addition to climate change mitigation, the Committee called for strengthening climate change adaptation and resilience, including for low-lying countries and mountainous countries that were vulnerable to extreme weather events, flooding, glacier melting, water resources depletion and other adverse climate impacts and cascading risks. The Committee underscored the severe financial impacts and damages resulting from extreme weather events such as floods, which might trigger migration and threatened food security. Decision makers were encouraged to develop appropriate legal frameworks to support green and blue economic developments. One representative suggested establishing a regional forum on loss and damage that was in line with the global loss and damage fund established at the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In addition, the representative suggested doing more to create an enabling environment for the private sector that included green finance frameworks.
- 32. The Committee took note of the interconnectivity of the environment and human health, considering COVID-19 and other natural disasters, and called for nature-positive transformations and living in harmony with nature. It was important to adopt a One Health approach to understanding issues such as long-range transboundary air pollution. The Committee also exchanged best

practices for reducing and reversing biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation. Making use of surveys to expand protected areas to cover critical biodiversity hotspots, strengthening regional collaboration on transboundary protected areas, developing local capacity for forest restoration and enhancing wildlife conservation were some of the measures mentioned.

- 33. The Committee called for increased regional efforts to promote lifestyle changes that would lead to sustainable consumption and production patterns, pursue green growth and promote an integrated approach underpinned by cultural change. The Committee highlighted the importance of enhancing resource efficiency, reducing waste and supporting a transition to a circular economy, including by incentivizing eco-friendly designs and mandating the use of recycled materials. At the same time, the Committee expressed concern about marine plastic litter and emphasized the need to reduce reliance on single-use plastics, strengthen plastic circularity and ban imports of plastic scrap. A representative raised the issue of increasing chemical production and fertilizer use and highlighted the need for sustainable nitrogen management.
- 34. The Committee noted the need to improve regional cooperation on connectivity and measures to counter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. The challenges common to small island developing States were raised and it was underscored that, despite their minor contributions to greenhouse gas emissions globally, such States had national plans and strategies for climate change mitigation. The resilience of marine ecosystems and resources could be placed at the centre of the blue economy, increasing the significance of ecosystem health protection.
- The need for sustainable urban development was highlighted, including 35. through the implementation of initiatives aimed at the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 11 and of the New Urban Agenda, which represented a common developmental pathway for cities and regions. The importance of comprehensive urban planning approaches that included job creation, livelihoods, improved quality of life, protection of the environment and climate action was emphasized. Several measures were identified to promote sustainable, inclusive, resilient and livable cities. Efforts to adopt comprehensive and participatory urban planning approaches, build the capacity of institutions, review urban planning laws and measure progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda should be strengthened. The resilience of cities, especially coastal cities, to climate change and ecological impacts should be enhanced. The Committee looked forward to the Eighth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum, which would be held in collaboration with UN-Habitat in Suwon, Republic of Korea, in October 2023.
- 36. The Committee noted the importance of strengthening regional collaboration on environment and development to achieve the 2030 Agenda and well-being for all. Regional efforts were being made to promote information- and data-sharing, technology transfer, technical assistance, financial support, capacity-building and South-South cooperation, among other things. It was important to adopt a whole-of-society approach in sustainability transitions and to forge partnerships with civil society organizations, private entities, academic institutes, intergovernmental bodies and other stakeholders at the local, national, regional and global levels. The Committee took note of several regional and interregional initiatives, including the Astana "Green Bridge" Initiative: Europe-Asia-Pacific Partnership for the Implementation of "Green Growth", the ASEAN Green Deal, the Ashgabat Consensus for Action and the proposal to declare 2025 the International Year for Glaciers' Preservation.

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- 37. Collaborations and partnerships should be established with organizations of Indigenous Peoples, women and youth to enable inclusive contributions to be made for the protection of the planet and to ensure respect for the environmental human rights of all. The need for ecosystem-based solutions, more green urban spaces and strengthened international, regional and domestic collaborations, as well as networks of cities, was highlighted. Unlocking urban climate finance and promoting basic urban services in the context of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All initiatives, as well as socially and environmentally friendly urban housing, were emphasized.
- 38. The Committee noted the importance of focusing not only on resource efficiency and a green transition but also on a just and inclusive transition. Progress was also reported on the implementation of the ministerial declaration entitled "Strengthening actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals", adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, including in terms of the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop a treaty on ending plastic pollution.

D. Adoption of the ministerial declaration on environment and development for Asia and the Pacific, 2022 (agenda item 8)

39. On 1 December, the Committee adopted the Ministerial Declaration on Protecting Our Planet through Regional Cooperation and Solidarity in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution.

E. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its seventh session (agenda item 9)

- 40. The Committee adopted the terms of reference of the Technical Expert Group on Environment and Development with the amendments proposed by member States (ESCAP/CED/2022/3/Rev.1, annex).
- 41. On 1 December 2022, the Committee adopted the report on its seventh session.