

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Seventy-eighth session
Adoption of the report
27 May 2022

**CHAIR'S SUMMARY STATEMENT ON THE OUTCOME OF
THE WORKING GROUP ON DRAFT RESOLUTIONS**

**Plenary Session on Adoption of the Report of the
Seventy- eighth Session of the Commission**

Mr. Chair,
Excellencies,
Madame Executive Secretary,
Distinguished Delegates,

Allow me at the outset to thank the Commission for entrusting in me and Mr. Sukmo Yuwono, Deputy Chief of Mission and Deputy Permanent Representative of Indonesia to ESCAP, the responsibility of Chairing and Vice-Chairing the Working Group on Draft Resolutions.

We indeed enjoyed the honour of working with each of the distinguished delegates in the Working Group. I wish to extend to them our deepest thanks for their active participation in the deliberations, and for the flexibility and spirit of cooperation demonstrated right from the beginning of our informal sessions.

This year the Working Group on Draft Resolutions had a particularly challenging work, as its deliberation were held in a hybrid format, with some delegations participating in person in the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, and other delegations participating online. And while countries had different views at times, in the end all delegations showed great flexibility and spirit of cooperation, which enabled the Working Group to reach a successful outcome.

I also want to acknowledge the efforts of the secretariat throughout all of our consultations over the last few weeks. I speak for the entire Working Group when I say that the support provided by them is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Chair,

Based on the discussions held within the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives, and in light of the challenges of negotiating in a hybrid format, member States had agreed to consider in principle only four resolutions. I wish to thank all delegations that were planning to table resolutions at this year's session for their flexibility and cooperation.

The resolution entitled "*Bangkok declaration commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: A common agenda to advance sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific*" highlights areas for strengthened regional cooperation to advance sustainable development in the region, taking into account the theme of the session. It draws from the priority areas identified by Member States in the declaration for the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, focusing on those areas which are most relevant for the region, renewing the commitment of countries in Asia and the Pacific to leave no one behind and accelerate action in all dimensions of sustainable development.

The resolution entitled "*A conference structure of the Commission to advance sustainable development*" will allow the conference structure of the Commission, namely its subsidiary bodies, to be

fit for purpose and help accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda and post-pandemic recovery.

The resolution entitled “*Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Building a More Resilient Future with Inclusive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics*” will endorse the outcomes of the second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, which re-enforces the continued commitments of our region to civil registration and vital statistics. The draft resolution entitled “*Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific*” will endorse the outcomes of the fourth ministerial conference on Transport which also adopted the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific (2022–2026).

While the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions facilitated consultations in the lead-up to the session, as per usual practice, all negotiations had to be concluded prior to the session, and through a combination of on-line and off-line consultations.

Moreover, in the interest of aligning the procedures of ESCAP with those of its parent body, the Economic and Social Council

(ECOSOC), and to facilitate the decision making process of the session, the Informal Working Group adopted a silence procedure, in line with ECOSOC decision 2021/213 of 24 February 2021.

In this regard, Mr. Chair, I am pleased to report that the draft resolutions and the decisions before the Commission for adoption today have undergone a silence procedure of at least 72 hours as agreed by the Informal Working Group. During this silence procedure no objections were raised.

Mr. Chair,

It is now my honour to present to the Commission this year's draft resolutions, as recommended by the Working Group on Draft Resolutions, for consideration and adoption by the Commission:

A conference structure of the Commission to advance sustainable development" as contained in document ESCAP/78/L.4.

“Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Building a More Resilient Future with Inclusive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics” as contained in document ESCAP/78/L.5 , sponsored by Pakistan.

“Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific” as contained in document ESCAP/78/L.6, sponsored by Indonesia.

“Bangkok declaration commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: A common agenda to advance sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific” as contained in document ESCAP/78/L.7.

Mr. Chair, these are the draft resolutions which the Informal Working Group has recommended for consideration and adoption by the Commission, and which have undergone the silence procedure.

I thank you and the distinguished delegates for your support and cooperation.
