



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Committee on Trade and Investment

First session  
4-6 November 2009  
Bangkok

**PROGRAMME PLANNING AND MONITORING**

(Item 10 (a) of the provisional agenda)

**REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK  
FOR 2008-2009 AND HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME  
OF WORK FOR 2010-2011**

*Note by the secretariat*

**SUMMARY**

The present document summarizes the progress in the implementation of the programme of work for the biennium 2008-2009 and provides a preliminary assessment of the achievements of the biennium under subprogramme 4, Trade and investment. Key activities planned for the biennium 2010-2011 are also highlighted. The Committee may wish to provide the secretariat with guidance on facilitating preparatory work for the implementation of the proposed work programme for 2010-2011.

**CONTENTS**

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction.....	2
I. REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008-2009: SUBPROGRAMME 4, TRADE AND INVESTMENT .....	2
II. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2010-2011.....	10

\* The late submission of the present document is due to processing delays in the clearance system of the secretariat.

## Introduction

1. The present document reviews the progress in the programme of work for the biennium 2008-2009 in respect of subprogramme 4, Trade and investment. It also provides an assessment of the achievements to date under the subprogramme (section I) and highlights key activities planned for the biennium 2010-2011 (section II). The Committee may wish to consider and review the achievements of the biennium 2008-2009 and provide guidance on the implementation of planned activities for the biennium 2010-2011.

### I. REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008-2009: SUBPROGRAMME 4, TRADE AND INVESTMENT

#### A. Progress of implementation

2. Subprogramme 4, Trade and investment of the programme of work for the biennium 2008-2009 is approaching completion. The objective, expected accomplishments, results, key activities and lessons learned are summarized in the table below.

<p><b>Objective of the Organization:</b> To achieve a more equitable distribution of benefits from the globalization process through increased trade and investment in support of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals</p>
<p><i>Expected accomplishment (a):</i> Increased national capacity to effectively negotiate, conclude and implement multilateral and other trade agreements supporting the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.</p>
<p><i>Indicators of achievement:</i></p> <p>(a) (i) Increased number of member countries making progress towards becoming members of regional and multilateral trade agreements (e.g. the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement and the World Trade Organization)</p> <p>(ii) Percentage of officials and others benefiting from ESCAP activities who indicate that they can use or have used knowledge and skills to negotiate agreements and formulate and implement trade policies</p>
<p><i>Results:</i></p> <p>Indicator (i):</p> <p>Through the effective services of the secretariat, in close cooperation with members, the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) entered into a new phase of trade negotiations. The fourth round tariff negotiations, aimed at further widening product coverage and deepening tariff cuts, are marching towards a conclusion. More importantly, in addition to the traditional area of tariff concessions, APTA members initiated the information exchange of non-tariff measures, and are close to finalizing negotiations on three framework agreements on trade facilitation, trade in services, and investment. In terms of membership expansion, through the facilitation of the secretariat, APTA members established contact with nine target members (Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Viet Nam) at the ministerial level, and are actively engaged in developing new members through various channels and platforms. Through the organization of a series of subregional and national seminars, the secretariat successfully presented APTA and its benefits to prospective members in Central Asia,</p>

North Asia, South-East Asia and the Pacific. The dedicated service of the secretariat continued to receive appreciation from APTA members. Mongolia and Papua New Guinea in particular have expressed sincere interest in joining APTA and are currently taking measures to start formal accession procedures.

Through the Technical Assistance Programme of ESCAP and the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Macao Regional Knowledge Hub (MARKHUB) project and projects funded by the European Commission (EC) for the least developed countries, all ESCAP member countries have increased their understanding of multilateral trade agreements, and countries currently in accession have made progress in their accession negotiations. Other countries have used their knowledge in advancing their interests and concerns in negotiating new multilateral commitments in the current Doha negotiations.

Indicator (ii):

During the period January 2008 to September 2009, over 900 people were trained on trade-related issues. Feedback from participants in the above-mentioned activities continues to be encouraging, with 90 per cent of the respondents to the end-of-seminar/workshop questionnaires indicating that they are able to use the knowledge and skills acquired to better negotiate agreements and formulate/implement trade policies.

*Key activities:*

1. Regional technical assistance activities, including the WTO/ESCAP Technical Assistance Programme: During the period January 2008 to September 2009, the secretariat strengthened cooperation with key partners, such as WTO and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), in strengthening the capacity of ESCAP members and associate members to negotiate, conclude and implement trade agreements effectively at various levels. In total, there were eight seminars and workshops organized in this period.

2. LDC Trade Capacity Development Programme: Two EC-funded projects to help Bhutan accede to WTO and to help Nepal implement its WTO commitments have been undertaken. The Bhutan project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2009. Activities under the projects include training workshops, strengthening WTO reference centres, university outreach programmes, and advisory services (e.g. on notification for Nepal and sanitary and phytosanitary measures for Bhutan).

3. Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT): The year 2008 also witnessed significant progress for ARTNeT. Initiated in 2004, ARTNeT now has 27 research institutions and 4 core partners (International Development Research Centre, WTO, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNCTAD). From January 2008 to June 2009, a total of 6 policy briefs, 19 working papers and 2 alerts on emerging trade issues in the region were issued. In addition to various research team meetings, five capacity-building workshops were held. Finally, several meetings were held with policymakers, researchers and other stakeholders to review the research findings.

4. Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Agreements Database (APTIAD): APTIAD entered a new development phase in 2008 by building analytical tools for measuring the trade performance of existing and potential trade agreements in the region, in addition to increasing the amount of descriptive information about the agreements. As of July 2009, the database covered 151 agreements and contained over 20 trade indicators, including interactive indices and a pre-calculated set of indicators. Upon completion of the first phase of the development of the database, which emphasized the descriptive information of the regional trade agreements and bilateral trade agreements BTAs of ESCAP members, the secretariat entered the second phase of the development of the database in 2008, which is focused on building analytical tools for

measuring the trade performance of the existing and potential trade agreements of the region. One component of the database, Interactive Trade Indicators, was updated to include 2007 trade data.

5. Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA): As the secretariat of APTA, the oldest regional trading arrangement in the Asia-Pacific region, ESCAP continued its dedicated service to the Agreement, and successfully organized six sessions of the Standing Committee during the period January 2008 to September 2009.

With regard to the expansion of APTA membership, the secretariat played a key role in facilitating the establishment of contact between APTA members and nine prospective members (Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Viet Nam) at the ministerial level, and in promoting APTA membership expansion through various channels and platforms, such as the UNCTAD XII Conference, bilateral consultation visits, and meetings organized by ESCAP. To familiarize more potential members with APTA, the secretariat took the initiative to organize a series of national/subregional seminars on the benefits of APTA membership for prospective member countries, i.e. for countries in Central Asia and South-East and East Asian countries, and held national seminars for Cambodia, Mongolia and Papua New Guinea.

Under the sponsorship of the Government of the Republic of Korea, the secretariat commissioned three studies on the specific benefits of APTA membership for 9 selected prospective member countries (Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam), which have contributed to promoting the interest of prospective members of APTA. The secretariat has also prepared a study on the analysis and incidence of non-tariff measures of APTA members on intra-APTA trade.

6. Analytical work on trade and investment in the region: For the purpose of enhancing the understanding of policymakers and other stakeholders regarding trade and investment development in the region, and of enhancing their capacity to formulate and implement sound policies, the secretariat also strengthened its analytical work since January 2008 and prepared a practical policy guide entitled "Navigating out of the crisis: a trade-led recovery" (April 2009) as well as the *Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2009*, with the theme of trade-led recovery and beyond, for consideration by the Committee at its first session. Two other publications were issued in this period: (a) *Unveiling Protectionism: Regional Responses to Remaining Barriers in the Textiles and Clothing Trade* (2008), and (b) *Emerging Trade Issues for Policymakers in Developing Countries in Asia and the Pacific, Studies in Trade and Investment No. 64* (2008).

*Lessons learned:*

Activities organized during the biennium revealed the following important lessons: (a) cooperation with global and regional organizations should be continued to create synergies and make optimal use of scarce resources; (b) the involvement of policymakers, the business sector and civil society is crucial in maximizing the impact of the activities of ESCAP, and translating knowledge and experience into concrete pro-development trade policies, regulations and standards; (c) normative and analytical work should be strengthened and closely linked to operational activities to better serve the priority needs of member countries; (d) to further promote the evolution of APTA in a manner that deepens trade and investment integration and cooperation in the region, the secretariat needs to be strengthened; (e) training activities should allow sufficient time for the interaction of participants and the sharing of experiences from the region; (f) knowledge sharing and knowledge management are essential to leverage limited resources and achieve results in the most efficient way; and (g) follow-ups and follow-through actions should be strengthened to ensure the long-term impact of ESCAP activities.

*Expected accomplishment (b):* Increased capacity and regional cooperation to develop and implement trade efficiency policies and programmes to promote international competitiveness

*Indicators of achievement:*

(b) (i) Percentage of officials and others benefiting from ESCAP activities who indicate that they can use or have used knowledge and skills to develop and implement trade efficiency policies and programmes

(ii) Increased number of users of ESCAP on-line trade information services for strengthened regional cooperation

*Results:*

About 350 representatives from government trade agencies, including ministries of trade, customs, quarantine administration, border agencies, trade promotion agencies, trade and customs service providers, the private sector and research institutions, have participated in the events. Overall, more than 90 per cent of the participants were satisfied with the activities, including the content, the topics selected, and the usefulness of the exchange of information and experiences. For example, the evaluation of the regional policy forum on trade facilitation and SMEs in times of crisis (China, 2009) shows that 95.8 per cent of the participants rated the quality of the event as “excellent” or “good”, 91.6 per cent believed that the exchange of information was useful, 91.6 per cent rated the knowledge content as “excellent” or “good”, and 100 per cent rated the skills/knowledge mix as “excellent” or “good”.

In the area of trade information, the number of users and E-TISNET subscribers has increased, and the target number of users and subscribers was met before the end of the biennium. At present, the number of E-TISNET subscribers has increased from 842 to a total of 1,036, an increase of 194 subscribers. This number is comprised of 589 email and 447 online subscribers.

*Key activities:*

With regard to expected accomplishment (b), the secretariat has organized various events since January 2008, including: two regional expert group meetings to address trade and transport facilitation for export competitiveness (China, 2008), and promote global and regional trade through trade facilitation (Thailand, 2009); three subregional seminars, which were organized under the United Nations Development Account fifth tranche project, with a focus on the adoption of electronic trade documents (Kyrgyzstan, 2008); the implementation of the single window system (Azerbaijan, 2008); and the improvement of border management in Central Asia (Tajikistan, 2009). Under the Development Account sixth tranche project, the secretariat organized a symposium on building regional capacity for paperless trade and launched the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (UNNExT) (Thailand, 2009). In order to assist member States in tackling the challenges posed by the current financial crisis, the secretariat, in collaboration with the World Bank and the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, organized a regional policy forum on trade facilitation and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in times of crisis (China, 2009), back to back with a roundtable meeting on examining the progress of WTO negotiations on trade facilitation and related Aid for Trade initiatives and needs in Asia and the Pacific. A workshop on e-commerce for countries in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) was organized jointly by the ESCAP secretariat, the All China Federation of Industry and Commerce, GMS Business Forum and Mekong Institute (China, 2009).

Analytical work remains one of the priorities of ESCAP in the area of trade facilitation. The major publications under preparation include: (a) ESCAP-ADB Handbook on Trade Facilitation; (b) Monograph on Impact of Trade and Transport Facilitation on Export Competitiveness; and (c) Guide to Business Process Analysis to Simplify Trade Procedures and Documents. In terms of trade information, recurrent activities, such as E-TISNET monthly newsletters and trade manuals, were carried out to disseminate timely and relevant trade information and knowledge throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

*Lessons learned:*

Organizing the above-mentioned events demonstrated the importance of collaboration among the various ESCAP divisions. Food partnerships among the various United Nations agencies, as well as with other international and regional organizations, are also important.

*Expected accomplishment (c):* Increased capacity to design and implement policies and programmes that create an enabling environment for investment and promote a competitive business sector

*Indicators of achievement:*

Percentage of officials and others benefiting from ESCAP activities who indicate that they can use or have used knowledge and skills to design and implement policies and programmes that create an enabling environment for investment or promote a competitive business sector

*Results:*

With regard to expected accomplishment (c), capacity-building activities related to designing and implementing policies and programmes for investment and enterprise competitiveness continued to receive very positive feedback from participants.

The Asia-Pacific Business Forum (APBF) has continued to solicit much interest from government and business alike. A total of 97 per cent of participants in the APBF 2008 who returned the questionnaire were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with all aspects of the Forum, including the topics, choice of speakers, networking opportunities, and the relevancy to work. The Forum produced a number of policy recommendations to the Ministerial Roundtable. APBF 2009 had more than 250 participants from business, governments, international organizations, civil society and academics. In an online survey sent to delegates after the Forum, overall opinion of the conference was positive (97 per cent). Survey results show that many participants went home with new ideas, and were in general pleased with the quality of the substance and format.

One hundred per cent of the participants who returned the full questionnaire at the workshops for the Asian Global Compact Local Network Focal Points agreed “strongly” (i.e., top score) or “moderately” (i.e., just below top score) that the workshop achieved the intended outcome. During the pilot implementation period, the Global Compact Asia-Pacific regional website ([www.globalcompactasiapacific.org](http://www.globalcompactasiapacific.org)) attracted an average of 1,500 visits per month.

*Key activities:*

In order to achieve expected accomplishment (c), the secretariat followed a balanced approach by promoting a more competitive business sector through improvement of business climates coupled with an increased uptake of corporate social responsibility (CSR), to ensure that business is not only profitable but also inclusive and sustainable. Key activities include the following:

1. Technical assistance in private sector development for GMS: The activities included supply-side capacity-building, SME development, women's entrepreneurship development and e-business applications, and were conducted under the programme entitled "Forum for the comprehensive development of Indo-China (FCDI)" in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the GMS Business Forum. As a new phase of FCDI, ESCAP has been preparing activities on capacity-building for SMEs in GMS for their effective penetration into regional and global markets and will explore further collaboration with participating countries for its implementation.

2. Business for Development: Building on the knowledge and experience gained from its regional and global value chain initiative in GMS, ESCAP is implementing a project in South Asia entitled "Business for development: creating an enabling environment for South Asian SMEs' effective penetration in regional and global markets (Phase I)" as part of its Business for Development initiative, a comprehensive programme for private sector development in the region.

3. APBF and the Business Advisory Council: The theme of APBF 2008, which was held in Bangkok in April 2008, was "Energy security: opportunities through regional energy cooperation and public-private partnerships". The Business Advisory Council of ESCAP, consisting of 23 senior business executives from the region, held its seventh meeting in April 2008. The theme of APBF 2009, which was held in Bangkok on 22 January 2009, was "Climate game change: innovations and solutions for climate change adaptation". Each year, APBF has been attended by over 250 participants, including trade and investment policymakers, senior executives of major businesses and senior representatives of international development agencies.

4. Investors for Development (I4D) project: Stakeholder consultations and workshops for the Global Compact Local Network (GCLN) focal points, involving 15 network countries, were organized: 3 in 2008 and 2 in 2009. The activities were held in Bangkok, Seoul, Bonn and Istanbul, to identify needs and challenges, to share ideas and experiences in developing networks, and to enhance the focal points' ability to implement the Network Sustainability Framework. Under the I4D project, a regional training-of-trainers course on the Global Compact for 38 trainees, based on tools and training materials developed by the project, was held in Kuala Lumpur on 16 and 17 September 2009.

GCLNs play an increasingly powerful role in strengthening the ability of business to implement CSR and rooting the Global Compact within different cultural and linguistic environments. Special attention is paid to transforming GCLNs into inclusive communities of practice where businesses together with governments, trade unions, civil society organizations, media and academic institutions can share best practices, discuss CSR issues and develop a collective view which potentially can contribute to the process of integrating CSR into development policies. A pilot regional website ([www.globalcompactasiapacific.org](http://www.globalcompactasiapacific.org)) was launched during the reporting period and the contents have been constantly updated.

*Lessons learned:*

One of the main lessons learned in the biennium 2006-2007 was that the expected accomplishments and their accompanying indicators were formulated at too high a level to be accurately measured and used as indicators of results. This lesson learned was integrated and changed in the indicators for the biennium 2008-2009. This indicators has diminished the attribution gap significantly by making the indicators much more directly related to the actual ESCAP activities and performance.

1. A public-private dialogue (such as APBF) is an opportunity to invite private sector views on issues that are being considered at intergovernmental meetings. Holding APBF back-to-back with the Commission session has been helpful in terms of recruiting some government speakers. It also made it possible to have the outcomes of APBF immediately available to the delegates in the Commission session (informally).

2. APBF 2009 was decoupled from the Commission session and held some months before it. Although holding the Forum in advance of the Commission session made the organizational arrangements much easier, and although the event was highly appreciated, the conclusion was that the way it feeds into the Commission session is still limited (and there is even less of a link to policymaking afterwards).

3. Implementing the I4D project has revealed that GCLN is much weaker and less well structured than anticipated and that network governance urgently needs to be addressed and improved. For sustainability purposes, the project team has also concluded that the Networks need to develop a business plan and establish effective partnerships with organizations that can help them to deliver value to network member companies.

*Expected accomplishment (d):* Increased capacity to design and implement policies and programmes that promote sustainable economic growth and rural poverty reduction through agrotechnology transfer and agro-based enterprise development

*Indicators of achievement:*

Percentage of officials and others benefiting from ESCAP activities who indicate that they can use or have used knowledge and skills acquired with assistance from the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM) to promote sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction in rural areas through the transfer of agrotechnology and enterprise development.

*Results:*

Under expected accomplishment (d), the technical cooperation of UNAPCAEM in 2008 focused on bio-energy development, including a clean development mechanism (CDM) application in the agriculture sector to promote sustainable economic growth and rural poverty reduction. Through the implementation of substantive projects and analytical work, policymakers and other stakeholders realized the importance of environmentally sustainable agriculture, and applicable technologies were explored and areas for technical cooperation were identified to increase members' capacity.

One hundred experts and policymakers from 15 member countries participated in the Regional Forum on Bio-energy Sector Development, and 25 papers were presented at the Forum. According to an evaluation survey conducted at the conclusion of the Forum, 81 per cent of participants said that they would definitely make use of the knowledge from the Forum, and report the outputs to senior officers and colleagues. Recently, the Department of Energy of Fiji requested the assistance of UNAPCAEM to help it identify Chinese biogas technology and equipment for transfer, and the request has been relayed.

Four publications in the fields of green technology, research and development for agricultural engineering, and conservation agriculture techniques were issued to increase the capacity of officials on the transfer of agrotechnology and enterprise development. More than 3,000 online visitors have accessed these publications since they were posted on the UNAPCAEM website ([www.unapcaem.org](http://www.unapcaem.org)) in August 2008. Inquiries from Pakistan and countries in Central Asia were made regarding possible follow-up training programmes on mushroom cultivation, following the publication of the training manual on this topic.

*Key activities:*

To achieve expected accomplishment (d), UNAPCAEM implemented the following activities:

1. Feasibility studies on the application of a CDM facility of the Kyoto Protocol in the agricultural sector: These feasibility studies are conducted in cooperation with the Institute of Environment and Sustainable Development in Agriculture of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (IESDA-CAAS) under a three-year joint programme. The studies are prepared, in particular, to explore the potential application of CDM in conservation agriculture and in household biogas. An expert group meeting jointly organized by UNAPCAEM and IESDA-CAAS was held on 11 September 2009 to review the draft of the study.

(a) Agro-based Green Technologies to Promote Sustainable Agriculture Development: UNAPCAEM published two publications: *A Feasibility Study on the Application of Green Technology for Sustainable Agriculture Development: Assessing the Policy Impact in Selected Member Countries* and *A Training Manual on Mushroom Cultivation Technology*. UNAPCAEM also published *Proceedings of the International Seminar on Enhancing Research and Development for Agricultural Engineering* and *Proceedings of the International Seminar on Enhancing Extension of Conservation Agriculture Techniques in Asia and the Pacific*.

(b) Regional Forum on Bio-energy Sector Development, held in Bangkok from 23 to 25 January 2008.

(c) Project on increasing crop yields through hybrid rice cultivation technology transfer (2009-2011): The project entitled "Extension of hybrid rice cultivation technology for food security in the Asia-Pacific region through South-South cooperation" was launched in Beijing on 24 August 2009, and the first stage of the project, the regional training of trainers programme on hybrid rice cultivation technology, was held in Changsha, China, from 24 August to 4 September 2009. A total of 26 agricultural technicians and representatives of agricultural extension services from 12 countries took part in the training.

*Lessons learned:*

Based on the evaluation of UNAPCAEM in 2007-2008 (see E/ESCAP/64/28), the Centre is shifting its programmatic focus to innovative agrotechnology transfer and capacity-building. The lack of a consistent programme development strategy resulted in programme development without a focus. As a result, very few substantial projects were implemented during 2008 through to June 2009. The programmes of UNAPCAEM should highlight the unique role of UNAPCAEM in regional cooperation, particular in capacity-building through South-South cooperation. An assessment of the needs of member countries could be done through the participatory process of the Technical Committee and the Governing Council members before programmes are designed, in order to be responsive to members' needs and to ensure the effective delivery of high-quality projects.

The participatory process of members needs to be strengthened. Due to human resources and budgetary constraints, especially in the area of technical expertise, as is the nature of a small office, technical support from Technical Committee and Governing Council members is essential to ensure the relevance and good reception of projects in participating countries. The decoupling of the Technical Committee meeting from the Governing Council meeting will begin on a trial basis later in 2009 to devise more substantial inputs to the work of UNAPCAEM. Meanwhile, web pages for Technical Committee and Governing Council members are being developed by UNAPCAEM to enhance interactions and provide a platform to exchange and generate ideas, and a new vehicle through which a better understanding of member countries' needs will be obtained.

Effective and efficient coordination and communication with supporting units in headquarters are very important in the delivery of the work programme of UNAPCAEM. The way in which the review process is streamlined and the efficiency of work is increased has a direct impact on the implementation of projects. Consideration should be given to providing ample time for project implementation and preparation when a review of project proposals is conducted by the supporting units. The scenario of hasty preparation and implementation should be avoided.

## II. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2010-2011

3. The objective and expected accomplishments of subprogramme 2, Trade and investment, in accordance with the strategic framework for the period 2010-2011,<sup>1</sup> are presented in the table below. Key activities/events planned and scheduled for 2010-2011 appear on the right side of the table and are based on the proposed programme of work, 2010-2011, which was endorsed by the Commission at its sixty-fifth session.<sup>2</sup> The secretariat plans to pursue the objective and expected accomplishments through a combination of analytical and normative work and technical assistance aimed at capacity-building. The Committee may wish to provide guidance on the implementation of the planned activities for this biennium.

<b>Objective of the Organization:</b> to strengthen regional cooperation and integration in trade, investment, finance and technology transfer in the ESCAP region in support of inclusive and sustainable development	
<i>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</i>	<i>Key activities/events</i>
(a) Strengthened regional cooperative mechanisms in trade, investment and finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Deepening, expansion and strengthening of APTA, including the standing committees and the fourth session of the Ministerial Council (2011)</li> <li>(ii) Expansion and strengthening of ARTNeT</li> <li>(iii) Expansion and strengthening of APTIAD</li> <li>(iv) Expansion and strengthening of UNNExT</li> <li>(v) Development of common frameworks in trade, investment and finance for regional cooperation and integration</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/63/6/Rev.1)*, pp. 279-280.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 19 (E/2009/39-E/ESCAP/65/32)*, para. 180.

<p>(b) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement effective and coherent policies, including those with a gender dimension, on trade and investment, enterprise development and finance policies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Organization of trainings and regional dialogues under the WTO/ESCAP Technical Assistance Programme (with a focus on the outcome of the Doha negotiations)</li> <li>(ii) Organization of training programmes on single window and paperless trade</li> <li>(iii) Organization of the annual APBF</li> <li>(iv) Implementation of the business for development programme, promoting the implementation of CSR with the I4D project and increasing enterprise competitiveness in value chains, with a special emphasis on SMEs</li> <li>(v) Annual publication of the <i>Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report</i></li> </ul>
<p>(c) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement policies and strategies for sustainable economic growth and rural poverty reduction through agrotechnology transfer and agro-based enterprise development</p>	<p>Field projects in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) South-South cooperative regional framework for food security through innovation and dissemination of agricultural technology, including post-harvest and farm mechanization technology, and agro-business development strategies; and (ii) promoting cooperation for agricultural development in the Greater Tumen Subregion.</li> </ul>
<p>(d) Strengthened capacity to promote national innovative systems and create an enabling environment for technology transfer to address regional development challenges</p>	<p>Field projects in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) strengthening the technology transfer capacity of SMEs, including gender dimensions; (ii) promotion of a regional network among research and development institutes in the Asia-Pacific region to strengthen capacity for innovation; (iii) promotion of national innovation systems in Asia and the Pacific, including gender dimensions; (iv) commercialization of grass-roots innovations in Asia and the Pacific; and (v) establishing an institutional cooperation mechanism to promote renewable energy in Asia and the Pacific.</li> </ul>