Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on the Beijing+25 Review
Bangkok, 27–29 November 2019

Annotated Provisional Agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on the Beijing+25 Review (section I) and the annotations to the provisional agenda (section II).

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the Conference:
   (a) Opening statements;
   (b) Election of officers;
   (c) Adoption of the agenda.

2. Review of the progress made, challenges to address and forward-looking policies to enact in order to accelerate the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in Asia and the Pacific in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

3. Priority issues pertaining to the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of women in Asia and the Pacific:
   (a) Realizing gender equality for women and girls in the thematic area of inclusive development, shared prosperity and decent work;
   (b) Realizing gender equality for women and girls in the thematic area of freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes;
   (c) Realizing gender equality for women and girls in the thematic area of accountability, participation and gender-responsive institutions;
   (d) Realizing gender equality for women and girls in the thematic area of environmental conservation, climate action and resilience-building.

4. Other matters.

5. Adoption of the outcome document and report of the Conference.

II. Annotations

1. Opening of the Conference

(a) Opening statements

The programme for the Conference will be available online at www.unescap.org/events/asia-pacific-regional-review-B25.

(b) Election of officers

The Conference will elect a bureau which will comprise a chair and two vice-chairs.

The list of participants will be available online at www.unescap.org/intergovernmental-meetings/asia-pacific-regional-review-25th-anniversary-beijing-declaration.

(c) Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

Provisional agenda (ESCAP/MCBR/2019/L.1)
Annotated provisional agenda (ESCAP/MCBR/2019/L.2)

Annotation

The Conference will consider and adopt the provisional agenda, subject to such changes as may be necessary.

2. Review of the progress made, challenges to address and forward-looking policies to enact in order to accelerate the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in Asia and the Pacific in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Documentation

Review of the progress and remaining challenges in implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/MCBR/2019/1)

Annotation

Under this agenda item, the Conference will review the progress made in the past five years, as well as remaining challenges to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the Asia-Pacific region. It will consider forward-looking policies to consolidate gains and accelerate implementation of international and regional commitments in achieving gender equality and women’s empowerment, including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As a basis for its deliberations, the Conference will consider a secretariat document that outlines the progress and remaining challenges in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action in the Asia-Pacific region. The document is based on the outcomes of the national reviews undertaken by Governments in accordance with the “Guidance note for comprehensive national-level reviews”. This guidance note was aligned with the Beijing
Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through six overarching themes: inclusive development, shared prosperity and decent work; poverty eradication, social protection and social services; freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes; participation, accountability and gender-responsive institutions; peaceful and inclusive societies; and environmental conservation, climate action and resilience-building.

Ministers and heads of delegations will be invited to deliver country statements that highlight achievements, critical issues, future challenges and policy responses in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. These statements may also identify opportunities and areas for partnership and regional cooperation, including South-South cooperation, to advance the gender equality and women’s empowerment agenda.

Representatives of United Nations organizations and intergovernmental organizations will be afforded the opportunity to make brief statements on measures and initiatives on gender equality and women’s empowerment. A consolidated statement will be delivered by a representative of civil society, conveying the recommendations made by civil society organizations for the information of the Conference.

3. Priority issues pertaining to the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of women in Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

Review of the progress and remaining challenges in implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/MCBR/2019/1)

Annotation

The Conference will review emerging areas and priority areas for action to provide recommendations for the acceleration of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through a moderated panel discussion, followed by an open discussion with participants, under the following thematic areas:

(a) Realizing gender equality for women and girls in the thematic area of inclusive development, shared prosperity and decent work

The Conference will review key issues regarding women’s economic empowerment, entrepreneurship, poverty reduction, as well as the issues of social protection, access to universal health care and public services.

(b) Realizing gender equality for women and girls in the thematic area of freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes

The Conference will review key issues regarding the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the area of freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes.

(c) Realizing gender equality for women and girls in the thematic area of accountability, participation and gender-responsive institutions

The Conference will review key issues regarding gender-responsive budgeting, planning and institutions, as well as strategies to promote women’s participation in decision-making and women’s leadership across all sectors and
at all levels of society, including in the context of peaceful and inclusive societies.

(d) Realizing gender equality for women and girls in the thematic area of environmental conservation, climate action and resilience-building

The Conference will review key issues, strategies and good practices to integrate gender perspectives in policies and programmes related to environmental conservation, climate action, climate resilience and disaster risk reduction, as well as women’s participation in these areas.

Member States will be invited to share good practices, effective and innovative solutions as well as policy options in the above thematic areas.

4. Other matters

Any other matters raised by delegations and/or the secretariat will be considered under this agenda item.

5. Adoption of the outcome document and report of the Conference

Documentation

Draft outcome document of the Conference (ESCAP/MCBC/2019/L.4/Rev.1)

Draft report of the Conference (ESCAP/MCBR/2019/L.3)

Annotation

The Conference will consider the draft outcome document and draft report for adoption. If required, a working group may be established to finalize the draft outcome document. The outcome document and report will serve as the Asia-Pacific regional input to the sixty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women on the 25-year review of progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and will be submitted for the consideration and endorsement of the Commission at its seventy-sixth session in 2020.

6. Closing of the Conference

Closing statements will be delivered.