



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Development

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**PROGRAMME PLANNING AND MONITORING: REVIEW OF THE DRAFT
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2012-2013**

(Item 8 (b) of the provisional agenda)

Note by the secretariat

SUMMARY

The preliminary elements of the draft strategic framework for 2012-2013 in respect of subprogramme 1, Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development, are submitted to the Committee for its review, pending the issuance of the global instructions from United Nations Headquarters for the preparation of the strategic framework for 2012-2013. The Committee may wish to provide its comments on the document, in particular on the overall direction, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and the strategy.

1. INTRODUCTION

1. The present document contains the preliminary elements of a draft strategic framework for 2012-2013 in respect of subprogramme 1, Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development, for the Committee's review and initial comments. The draft strategic framework for 2012-2013 will be further refined by the secretariat, taking into consideration the Committee's comments and complying with United Nations Headquarters' instructions for the preparation of the strategic framework for 2012-2013, which are expected to be issued shortly. The draft strategic framework for 2012-2013 for the entire programme of ESCAP will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (ACPR) at its special session in February 2010, after which it will be considered by the Commission at its sixty-sixth session in May 2010 for endorsement.

2. The biennial strategic framework contains the expected accomplishments and strategy for the overall achievement of the objectives of the ESCAP programme consistent with the relevant legislative mandates of the Commission, the Economic

* The late submission of the present document is due to the pending issuance of the global instructions from United Nations Headquarters for the preparation of the draft strategic framework for 2012-2013.

and Social Council and the General Assembly in the areas of work under the purview of ESCAP.

3. The draft strategic framework for 2012-2013 is guided by the overall programme objective of ESCAP of promoting inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific.

4. The Committee may wish to provide its comments on the overall direction, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and strategy for the subprogramme, as provided in the following section.

**2. PRELIMINARY ELEMENTS OF THE DRAFT STRATEGIC
FRAMEWORK FOR 2012-2013: SUBPROGRAMME 1,
MACROECONOMIC POLICY AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Objective of the Organization: To foster a sound macroeconomic policy environment and regional economic cooperation for inclusive and sustainable growth and development in the Asia-Pacific region, especially in support of poverty reduction and other internationally agreed development goals, particularly among countries with special needs (namely least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States)

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced understanding of macroeconomic challenges and policy options to facilitate the formulation and implementation of sound development strategies in the region's economies that promote growth, reduce poverty and narrow the development gaps	(a) Number of references to ESCAP publications and other activities on macroeconomic policy, finance and development in policy documents, academic literature and mass media
(b) Enhanced regional voice in global development forums and deepened regional economic and financial cooperation to exploit synergies for mutual benefit towards inclusive and sustainable growth and development	(b)(i) Number of outcome documents and resolutions reflecting consensus on regional economic and financial cooperation to address development challenges, including those concerning the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States (b)(ii) Number of partnerships developed for strengthening regional economic and financial cooperation
(c) Improved capacity of member States, particularly countries with special needs, to design and implement macroeconomic and development policies, including those on sustainable agriculture and food security, for achieving the Millennium Development Goals	(c)(i) Percentage of participants in ESCAP activities indicating that they are better able to design and implement sound economic development policies, including Millennium Development Goal-related policy options and strategies recommended by ESCAP (c)(ii) Percentage of those participating in the work of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (CAPSA) who indicate that they are better able to formulate and implement rural development policies that promote sustainable agriculture and food security

Strategy

5. The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme would lie with the Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division, with support from CAPSA. Under the subprogramme, the secretariat would be responsible for mainstreaming the development needs of the least developed countries, landlocked countries and small island developing States into the work of ESCAP, especially in reducing poverty, eliminating disparities and fostering greater integration into the regional economic growth process. The strategic direction of the subprogramme is imbedded in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, the outcome of the London G20 Summit, and the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, as well as in Commission resolutions 62/1, 63/4 and 64/6 on achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCAP region, Commission resolution 65/4 on the strengthening of CAPSA and Commission resolution 65/1 on the implementation of the Bali Outcome Document in addressing the food, fuel and financial crises. The strategic direction of the subprogramme is also expected to be reflected in the outcome of the forthcoming Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in 2011.

6. With its substantive emphasis on strengthening the capacities of countries to formulate and implement inclusive and sustainable development policies in support of the internationally agreed development goals, the subprogramme would (a) monitor macroeconomic trends and prospects towards reducing poverty and narrowing development gaps, (b) promote capacity development in countries with special needs in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and assist in the graduation process of the least developed countries, (c) strengthen regional cooperation in addressing medium- to long-term development challenges and (d) support sustainable agriculture and food security in the region aimed at reducing poverty in poor communities. Special emphasis would be placed on efforts to (a) promote greater regional integration and resiliency through increased economic growth, (b) achieve the Goals in ways that reduce economic and social disparities both within as well as across countries, (c) foster a regional coordinated voice on various global processes on development issues and challenges, and (d) explore innovations in strengthening collaboration and identifying regional synergies/complementarities in promoting sustainable agriculture and food security.

7. A specific set of key modalities would be followed in implementing the work programme. Internally, collaborative partnerships with other divisions would be developed to achieve greater focus and efficiency in the delivery of products and services to member States. ESCAP regional institutions would also be an integral part of that collaborative process. Close and collaborative relationships with ESCAP subregional offices would be developed in assessing the particular needs of subgroups of countries and addressing those needs. Regional cooperation, as well as South-South cooperation, would continue to be the key modality in bringing countries together. Policy dialogues and policy advocacy would be used to address common development issues and fill the development gaps, particularly those of countries with special needs. The Regional Coordination Mechanism would be utilized to achieve greater coherence and effectiveness with other United Nations organizations and specialized agencies in delivering a common set of services to member States.

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