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English only

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management

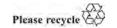
First session

New Delhi, 2 November 2016

Adoption of the rules of procedures of the Governing Council (Agenda item 4)

Note by the secretariat*

- 1. The Commission in its resolution 71/11 decided to establish the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM) as a regional institution of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).
- 2. As a subsidiary body of ESCAP, APDIM will be aligned with and contribute to the ESCAP programme of work. The Centre is mandated to work with ESCAP members and associate members and other relevant stakeholders to reduce the risks, damage and losses resulting from disasters through capacity-building and strengthened regional cooperation in disaster information management.
- 3. The Commission at its seventy-second session, which was held from 15 to 19 May 2016, elected, along with the host, country the Islamic Republic of Iran, the following members and associate members of ESCAP as members of the Governing Council of APDIM for the period 2016-2019: Bangladesh; Cambodia; Nepal; Pakistan; Philippines; Sri Lanka; Turkey; and Macao, China.
- 4. In accordance with resolution 71/1 on restructuring the conference structure of the Commission to be fit for the evolving post-2015 development agenda, the members of the Governing Council are to be represented by the relevant ministries: for APDIM, this is the ministries in charge of disaster risk reduction and management.
- 5. In accordance with paragraph 30 of the Statute of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management, the Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure. The draft rules of procedures of the Council are based on the statute of the Centre attached to resolution 71/11 and the pertinent rules of ESCAP, as presented in this document.



^{*} The present document is being issued without formal editing.

Draft Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management

Chapter I

Secretariat

Rule 1

The Director of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM) shall be the Secretary of the Governing Council (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary"). The Secretary shall be responsible for the organization and preparation of the Governing Council sessions and for the preparation of the records and reports of the Council.

Chapter II

Sessions

Rule 2

The following principles shall apply with regard to the date and place for the sessions of the Governing Council.

- (a) The Governing Council (hereinafter referred to as the "Council") shall have one regular session each year. Special sessions may be organized as required;
- (b) Regular sessions of the Council shall be convened by the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) hereinafter referred to as the "Executive Secretary", who may propose special sessions of the Council at her/his own initiative and shall convene such special sessions at the request of a majority of Council members;
- (c) The Council shall at each session, in consultation with the secretariat, indicate the date and place of its next session, to be confirmed later by the Executive Secretary.

Rule 3

Sessions of the Council shall ordinarily be closed and shall be limited to the members and the secretariat. Representatives of (a) States that are not members of the Council; (b) United Nations bodies and specialized agencies; and (c) such other organizations, as well as experts in fields of interest to the Council as the Council may deem appropriate, may be invited by the Executive Secretary to attend the meetings of the Council.

Chapter III

Agenda

Rule 4

The Secretary shall communicate to the members of the Council, at least six weeks in advance of each regular session and at least two weeks before a special session, the provisional agenda together with relevant documentation and information.

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Rule 5

The provisional agenda for each regular session shall include:

- (a) A report by the secretariat on the activities of the Centre;
- (b) Items pending from previous sessions of the Council;
- (c) Items proposed by any of its members;
- (d) Items proposed by the Executive Secretary.

Rule 6

At the beginning of each session, the Council shall adopt its agenda. The Council may also amend its agenda. Any matter within the competence of the Council not included in the provisional agenda for a session may be submitted to the Council by a member or the Secretary and added to the agenda by a decision of the Council.

Rule 7

The provisional agenda for special sessions shall be prepared by the secretariat, taking into account the reason for convening the special sessions.

Chapter IV

Officers

Rule 8

The Council shall, at each regular session, elect a Chair and Vice-chair. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall hold office until the next regular session of the Council. They shall be eligible for a re-election.

Rule 9

The Chair or, in her/his absence, the Vice-Chair shall preside at meetings of the Council. If the Chair is unable to serve for the full term for which she/he has been elected, the Vice-Chair shall act as Chair for the remainder of that term.

Rule 10

If the Chair and the Vice-Chair are unable to attend a meeting, the Council shall select one of the members present to serve as Acting Chair at that meeting.

Chapter V

Reporting

Rule 11

The Executive Secretary shall submit an annual report on the work of the Centre, as adopted by the Council, to the Commission at its annual sessions.

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Chapter VI

Conduct of Business

Rule 12

A majority of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 13

The Chair shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Council, direct the discussions, ensure the observance of these Rules of Procedure, accord the right to speak, put questions to a vote and announce decisions. The Chair may call a speaker to order, if his/hers remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 14

During the discussion of any matter, a member of the Council may raise a point of order on which the Chair shall immediately give his/her ruling. If it is challenged, the Chair shall forthwith submit his/her ruling to the Council for consideration and a decision, and the ruling shall stand unless it is overruled by a majority of the members present and voting.

Rule 15

Any member may at any time during a debate move for the closure of the debate, even if another member has asked for the floor. No more than two speakers may be granted permission to speak against the closure.

Rule 16

The Chair shall take a consensus of the Council on a motion for closure. If the Council is in favour of the motion, the Chair shall declare the debate closed.

Chapter VII

Voting

Rule 17

Each member of the Council shall have one vote.

Rule 18

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