



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Committee on Trade and Investment

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Bangkok

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

(Item 10 (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 2, Trade and investment, is 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 element of a draft strategic framework for 2012-2013 in respect of subprogramme 2, Trade and investment, 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 in line 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 2, TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Objective of the Organization: to promote trade, investment, and technology transfer for region-wide economic prosperity, social progress and environmental sustainability

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
<p>(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement more effective and coherent policies on trade, investment, and enterprise development for inclusive and sustainable development</p> <p>(b) Strengthened regional cooperation and integration mechanisms in trade and investment in support of inclusive and sustainable development</p>	<p>(a) Percentage of participants in ESCAP activities and initiatives indicating that they had increased and/or used their capacity to formulate or implement more effective and coherent policies on trade, investment, and enterprise development for inclusive and sustainable development</p> <p>(b) (i) Number of ESCAP member States indicating that regional cooperative mechanisms in trade and investment fostered by ESCAP have been strengthened</p> <p>(ii) Increased coverage and depth of commitments under the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement and/or the expansion of membership in the Agreement</p>
<p>(c) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement policies and strategies for sustainable economic development and rural poverty reduction through agrotechnology transfer and agro-based enterprise development</p>	<p>(c) Percentage of those participating in the activities of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery and other ESCAP initiatives indicating that they were better able to formulate or implement policies and strategies for sustainable economic growth and rural poverty reduction through regional cooperation in agrotechnology and agricultural enterprise development</p>

<p>(d) Strengthened capacity to promote national innovative systems and create an enabling environment for technology transfer to address regional development challenges</p>	<p>(d) Increased number of ESCAP member States participating in the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology and other technology transfer mechanisms promoted by ESCAP, including regional networks</p>
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Strategy

5. The substantive responsibility for the subprogramme would lie with the Trade and Investment Division, with support from the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology and the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery. The strategic direction of the subprogramme is mainly derived from the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, the Shanghai Declaration, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2005/38 on the statute of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology, and 2005/37 on the statute of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery, and Commission resolution 62/6 on managing globalization through strengthened regional cooperation in trade and investment.

6. To meet its objectives, the subprogramme would be implemented through a combination of analytical and evidenced-based policy research on trade, investment and technology transfer; experience sharing on related policy reforms; and promotion of multi-stakeholder policy dialogues. Special attention would be paid to (a) capacity-building among policymakers and practitioners in trade, investment and technology transfer, particularly related to the capacity to effectively negotiate, conclude and implement multilateral and other trade and investment agreements; (b) the design and implementation of appropriate trade facilitation and trade finance policies and measures; and (c) capacity to formulate and implement effective policy measures to enhance food security and sustainable agriculture and the contribution of the private sector, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and agro-based enterprises to inclusive and sustainable development. Common frameworks that advance regional integration in trade, investment, technology transfer and the development of SMEs, including agricultural enterprises, in a manner supportive of the multilateral trading system and other multilateral agreements of relevance would be pursued. The deepening, expansion and strengthening of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement would form a key pillar of the work of the subprogramme. Moreover, regional cooperation among research institutions would be deepened through the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), while the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia Pacific (UN NExT) would be promoted as an important regional cooperative mechanism for facilitating trade.

7. The mandate of the subprogramme would be delivered in close collaboration with other subprogrammes, particularly Transport, Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development, Environment and development, Statistics, and ESCAP subregional offices. The Commission would collaborate at the regional, subregional and national levels with the agencies of the United Nations system and with other

bilateral and multilateral agencies. In particular, partnerships would be strengthened with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the International Trade Centre in the area of trade policy; with regional commissions, UNCTAD, WTO, the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank in the area of trade facilitation; and with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Global Compact Office, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the World Bank in the areas of investment, technology transfer and enterprise development.

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