

Annex II

Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference

8-10 May 2013
Bangkok

Overview

I. Background

In pursuance of United Nations General Assembly Resolution 65/234 of 5 April 2011 on the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development Beyond 2014, a special session of the General Assembly during its sixty-ninth session in 2014 will be convened in order to assess the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD PoA).

The objectives of the special session are to renew political support for the ICPD PoA and the actions required for its full implementation, and to mainstream population and development into the United Nations Development Agenda Beyond 2015.

ESCAP resolution 68/6 of 23 May 2012 requested the Executive Secretary to convene the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference (APPC) in Bangkok in 2013 with a view to utilizing the Conference as an intergovernmental platform for the Asian and Pacific preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the International Conference on Population and Development Beyond 2014. The Asian and Pacific Population Conference has been convened decennially by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) for the past five decades. It has played a critical role in setting the regional agenda for population and development policies in Asia and the Pacific. In addition, the Conference has provided a vital forum for forging and strengthening partnerships across the region in the field of population and development.

The Sixth APPC will be convened by ESCAP in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Bangkok from 16 to 20 September 2013 in Bangkok. The Conference is expected to provide regional guidelines for national action to address current and emerging challenges linked to population and development. The outcome of the Conference will also serve as the Asia-Pacific input for the special session of the General Assembly on the International Conference on Population and Development Beyond 2014.

In light of the above, the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Sixth Asia-Pacific Population Conference, to be held from 8 to 10 May 2013, is an important step in the preparatory process. The Meeting will be briefed about the key findings of the regional review of the progress made on implementing ICPD commitments, and will identify key persistent and emerging population and development issues, including ensuring universal access to reproductive health, responding to population and sustainable development linkages, and enhancing social integration in the context of demographic

change. The Meeting will also consider the first draft of a proposed outcome document for the sixth APPC.

II. Participation

Representatives designated by ESCAP Seats of Governments in expert capacity will attend the Regional Preparatory Meeting. In addition, other experts in the field of population and development, including from civil society and the United Nations system will be in attendance.

III. Objectives

The objectives of the Regional Preparatory Meeting are the following:

- (a) To review the initial findings of the International Conference on Population and Development Beyond 2014 Global Survey for the Asian and Pacific region;
- (b) To identify key emerging issues related to population and development to be considered by the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference;
- (c) To consider the first draft of a proposed outcome document for the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference.

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