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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Technical Committee
Sixth meeting
Beirut, 1-2 December 2011

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

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9. Adoption of the report of the Technical Committee on its sixth meeting.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the meeting

The opening session of the sixth meeting of the Technical Committee will begin at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 1 December 2011, at the Meeting Room, MZ level of ESCWA headquarters (United Nations House), in Beirut.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Pursuant to rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which apply to subsidiary bodies, "At the beginning of each session, once the Chairman has assumed his duties in accordance with rule 12, the Commission shall adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda". According to that rule, the Technical Committee will be presented with the provisional agenda and annotations for this meeting in document E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/L.1. Given that Jordan is currently chairing the Technical Committee in its capacity as chair of the twenty-sixth ESCWA session, pursuant to the terms of reference of the Technical Committee which stipulate that the chairmanship of the Committee shall coincide with the chairmanship of the Commission session, the secretariat has prepared the provisional agenda in coordination with Jordan's Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, the body responsible for coordination with ESCWA.

The Technical Committee will also be presented with the proposed organization of work in document E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/L.2. The Committee shall adopt the agenda and the organization of work as submitted or in amended forms.

3. Proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015 (E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/3)

The proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015 will be presented by the secretariat to the Technical Committee. It presents the overall orientation for programme 18 which guides the work of ESCWA, the strategy of each of the seven subprogrammes included under programme 18, as well as their respective expected achievements and indicators of achievement. In preparing the proposed strategic framework, the secretariat has taken into account emerging priorities at the global and regional levels. Member country representatives are invited to review the proposed strategic framework and provide guidance in that regard with a view to adopting it.

4. Ongoing preparations for the twenty-seventh ESCWA session (E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/4)

The secretariat started preparations for the twenty-seventh ESCWA session to be held in April 2012 at the United Nations House in Beirut, should none of the member countries offer to host it. The document presented to the Committee under this agenda item contains an overview of the ongoing preparations for the upcoming session, proposals for the main theme of the session in the light of emerging global and regional priorities and outstanding development issues, in addition to the proposed session agenda. Member country representatives are invited to review the ongoing preparations, decide the theme of the session and the relevant issues to be discussed at the ministerial round tables to be held during the session with a view to adopt the proposed agenda.

5. Progress achieved in the work of the secretariat: Implementation of recommendations made by the Technical Committee at its fifth meeting (E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/5)

The document presented to the Committee under this agenda item describes the actions taken and activities implemented by the secretariat pursuant to the recommendations made by the Committee at

its fifth meeting (Beirut, 6-7 April 2011). Member country representatives are invited to take note of what has been accomplished and offer suggestions in that regard.

6. Views of member countries on the work of ESCWA: Successes and areas of improvement

In an effort to enhance cooperation and coordination between ESCWA and its member countries, promote exchange of experience and information in order to benefit from and disseminate successful practice, improve the services provided by ESCWA to member countries and implement activities commensurate with their development needs, the Committee has included this item on its agenda since its fourth meeting. It aimed at soliciting views from member countries on the work of ESCWA, focusing on strengths and successes and offering suggestions for potential improvement. While at the previous two meetings of the Committee views were given by representatives of Bahrain, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and the Sudan, views at the present meeting will be given by representatives of two member countries.

7. Date and venue of the seventh meeting of the Technical Committee

The Committee will decide the date and venue of its seventh meeting.

8. Other matters

This item shall cover any other matters that the members of the Committee may decide to discuss.

9. Adoption of the report of the Technical Committee on its sixth meeting

The Committee will consider the draft report on its sixth meeting, which includes the recommendations, for discussion and adoption.
