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Beirut, 7-10 May 2012

Item 7 (b) of the provisional agenda

## **MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2012-2013**

#### **Summary**

This document presents proposed amendments to the work programme for the biennium 2012-2013. These changes are based on the new mandates that emanated from the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly and the global and regional needs and challenges that have emerged since the Commission adopted the draft programme of work for 2012-2013 at its twenty-sixth session.

The Commission is invited to consider the proposed changes with a view to endorsing them for incorporation in the programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013.

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## INTRODUCTION

1. This document presents proposed amendments to the work programme for 2012-2013. These changes are based on the new mandates that emanated from the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly and from the global and regional needs and challenges that have emerged since the Commission adopted the draft programme of work for 2012-2013 at its twenty-sixth session. The major changes result from the comprehensive proposal of the Secretary-General to the resumed sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly, which aims to improve the effective and efficient delivery of the mandates of the development-related activities of the United Nations Secretariat, including those of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) as well as the aim of ESCWA to align, when possible, the 2012-2013 work plan with the Strategic Objectives of ESCWA at the core of the 2014-2015 Strategic Framework to ensure programme continuity, as well as maximize the impact of services ESCWA provides to its member countries.
2. This document also includes minor changes proposed by the Secretariat, which are mainly concentrated on a reduction in the number and periodicity of information materials, including booklets, pamphlets and newsletters.
3. The Commission is invited to consider the proposed changes, the background to which is explained in part I, namely, the proposals of the secretariat for changes, with a view to endorsing them for incorporation into the programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013.

### I. AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE SECRETARIAT

4. The amendments proposed by the secretariat are intended to make optimal use of the resources available to the Secretariat, while further enhancing the quality and relevance of priority services provided in implementing the 2012-2013 work programme.
5. The resolution of the Commission on the change in the frequency of intergovernmental sessions, considered under item 7 (a) of the provisional agenda, may also have further programmatic and financial implications, in which case the Commission will be advised of this by the Secretariat during the current session.

### II. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2012-2013

6. The following matrix provides the proposed programme amendments, itemized by subprogramme.

Activity	Status <sup>1</sup>				Justification
	T	A	R	P	
<b>Subprogramme 1</b>					
<b>Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development</b>					
<i>Ad hoc expert group meetings</i>					
Exploring policy options for Water & Energy Nexus		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.
Food Secure Arab World: A Roadmap for Policy and Research		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.

<sup>1</sup> T = Terminated; A = Additional; R = Reformulated; and P = Postponed.

<i>Field projects</i>					
Regional Initiative for the Assessment of the Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.
Adaptation to climate change in the water sector in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.
Support to ESCWA member countries in the field of water supply and sanitation			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Support to ESCWA member countries in the field of water supply and sanitation: MDG+ Initiative.
<i>Parliamentary documentation</i>					
Report on socio-economic and environmental vulnerability caused by the impact of climate change on the water sector in ESCWA countries			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Report on the Regional Initiative for the Assessment of the Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region.
<i>Recurrent publications</i>					
ESCWA water development report, No. 5: National capacities for the management of shared water resources in ESCWA countries			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : ESCWA Water Development report, No. 5: Issues in Sustainable Water Resources Management and Water Services.
<b>Total for subprogramme 1:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Subprogramme 2</b>					
<b>Social development</b>					
<i>Ad hoc expert group meetings</i>					
Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Second High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development		1			<b>Added by legislation</b> pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/170 of 20 December 2010 on International Migration and Development.
<i>Contribution to joint outputs</i>					
Strengthening national capacities in social statistics and preparedness for the upcoming "ICPD@20"		1			<b>Added by legislation</b> pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/234 of 22 December 2010 on the Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) beyond 2014.
<i>Training courses, workshops, seminars</i>					

Workshop on integrated spacial strategy		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes in order to maximize the technical cooperation spin-offs from normative activities.
<b>Total for subprogramme 2:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Subprogramme 3</b> <b>Economic development and integration</b>					
<i>Ad hoc expert group meetings</i>					
Assessment of the Progress Made in the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and Doha International Conference by ESCWA Member Countries and Preparing Member Countries for the 2013 United Nations International Conference on Financing for Development			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Inclusive Finance in the ESCWA Region.
High Priority Issues Related to Financing for Development: Regional Cooperation			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for Programmatic Purposes. <u>New title</u> : High priority Issues Related to Financing for Development: Innovative Ways of Financing Infrastructure for Regional Integration.
Trade and Development in the ESCWA Region: South-South Cooperation			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Aid Effectiveness in the Arab Region for Regional Integration.
<i>Non-recurrent publications</i>					
Trade and Development in the ESCWA region: Regional cooperation: World Trade Organization (WTO) and market access			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Aid Effectiveness in the ESCWA Region for Regional Integration.
<i>Field projects</i>					
Strengthening capacities to utilize workers' remittances in financing for development		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.
<b>Total for subprogramme 3:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	

**Subprogramme 4**  
**Information and communication technology for regional integration**

*Ad hoc expert group meetings*

Activity	Status <sup>1</sup>				Justification
	T	A	R	P	
Expert Group Meeting on Regional Platform for Cyberlegislation and Digital Arabic Content		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. Follow-up to the Conference and Public Consultations to Establish the Arab Internet Governance Forum.
Conference and Public Consultations to Establish the Arab Internet Governance Forum		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. The Executive Bureau of the Arab Telecommunications Council of Ministers, held in March 2011, endorsed the need to hold public consultations and a conference on the Arab Internet Governance Forum and called upon ESCWA to partner with the League of Arab States in this endeavour.
<i>Technical material</i>					
Brochure on ESCWA Technology Centre			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Policy Note on Cyberlegislation.
Leaflet on the Information Society Portal			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Policy Note on Digital Arabic Content.
Leaflet on the Regional Profile			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Regional Profile: Outlook.
<b>Total for subprogramme 4:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Subprogramme 5</b> <b>Statistics for evidence-based policymaking</b>					
<i>Other activities</i>					
Statistical coordination and harmonization		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.
<b>Total for subprogramme 5:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Subprogramme 6</b> <b>Advancement of women</b>					
<i>Ad hoc expert group meetings</i>					
Conference on Women in the Arab Spring		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.

Policies to Empower Women in the ESCWA Region: a Life Cycle Approach (in cooperation with the League of Arab States (LAS)-Arab Women Organization (AWO)-Center			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Policies to Empower Women in the ESCWA Region: Combating Gender-based
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Activity	Status <sup>1</sup>				Justification
	T	A	R	P	
(sic) for Arab Women Training and Research (CAWTAR))					Violence (in cooperation with LAS).
<i>Recurrent publications</i>					
Study on the Status of Arab Women: Policies to Empower Women in the ESCWA Region: a Life Cycle Approach			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Policies to Empower Women in the ESCWA Region: Combating Gender-based Violence (in cooperation with LAS).
<i>Special events</i>					
Launching of the ESCWA/LAS-AWO-CAWTAR Joint Study on the Status of Arab Women: Policies to Empower Women in the ESCWA Region: a Life Cycle Approach			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Policies to Empower Women in the ESCWA Region: Combating Gender-based Violence (in cooperation with the LAS).
<i>Field projects</i>					
Institutional and capacity building project for Arab Parliaments for the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.
The establishment of an observatory for women in the Arab region-pilot Lebanon		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.
<b>Total for subprogramme 6:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Subprogramme 7</b>					
<b>Conflict mitigation and development</b>					
<i>Recurrent publications</i>					
Governance and Peacebuilding (Issue 1): Local Governance in Conflict Settings			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Governance Report in Conflict Settings.
<i>Ad hoc expert group meetings</i>					
Brainstorming Session on Enhancing Local Public Service Delivery in Crisis			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Brainstorming Session on Governance in Conflict Settings.
Mainstreaming Development and Aid Effectiveness in National Strategies in Conflict-affected Countries			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Development amidst Transition and Reform.
Local Governance as a Peacebuilding Tool in Conflict Settings			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Pro Governance Institutional Development in Conflict-affected Countries.

Activity	Status <sup>1</sup>				Justification
	T	A	R	P	
Interrelationship between Conflict, Youth Employability and Reconciliation			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Institution-based State and Reconciliation in Conflict Settings.
<i>Non-recurrent publications</i>					
Development Coordination in Conflict Affected Countries: Enhancing Concerned Public Institutions			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Development Challenges of Transition in Conflict-affected Countries.
Mainstreaming conflict-management mechanisms through public sector modernization			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> : <u>New title</u> : Institutional Development and Participation in Countries in Transition in the Region.
Youth Employability and Peacebuilding			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Security and Rule of Law in Conflict-affected Countries.
<i>Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits</i>					
Booklet on Youth Employment, Reconciliation and Peacebuilding			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Fact Sheet on Promoting Civic Values and Life Skills through Education in Iraq.
Factsheets on the Socio-Economic Conditions in Occupied Palestinian Territory			2		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Wall chart/poster for the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.
Brochure on Local Governance and Peacebuilding			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Brochure on Governance in Conflict-affected Countries.
<i>Technical material</i>					
Strengthening Development Coordination among Regional Actors in the ESCWA Region			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Food security strategy in Gulf Cooperation Council.
Working Paper series on Emerging Issues and Development in Conflict Affected Countries: Strengthening the Resilience of Marginalized Groups			1		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Transition to Democracy in the Arab Region: Institutional and Policy Issues.
Contribution to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) Division for Public Administration			2		<b>Reformulated at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes. <u>New title</u> : Contribution to the DESA publication on participatory governance and



Activity	Status <sup>1</sup>				Justification
	T	A	R	P	
					participation in the meeting of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration.
Enhancing essential service delivery at the local level in conflict settings			1		<b>Reformulated by legislation pursuant Economic and Social Council</b> Resolution 2010/31 of 23 July 2010. <u>New title</u> : Socio-economic Conditions in Occupied Palestinian Territory.
<i>Field projects</i>					
Strengthening national capacity for the integration of sustainable development practices in national development strategies		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.
Phase I of Iraq Public Sector Modernization Project (I-PSM)		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.
Phase II of Iraq Public Sector Modernization Project (I-PSM)		1			<b>Added at the initiative of the secretariat</b> for programmatic purposes.
<b>Total for Subprogramme 7:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Grand Total for ESCWA:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	

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