UNITED NATIONS

E

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Twenty-seventh session
Beirut, 7-10 May 2012

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

REVISED DRAFT STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK
FOR THE BIENNIUM 2014-2015

Summary

This document presents the revised draft strategic framework for 2014-2015. The draft strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015 was submitted to the Technical Committee at its sixth meeting (Beirut, 1-2 December 2011). This revised version takes into account the comments provided by member countries during that meeting and advise from the United Nations Secretariat.

The Commission is invited to review the overall programme orientation and focus areas and strategies pertained to the seven subprogrammes, taking into account the specific mandates issued by the Commission and the general mandates issued by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, make concrete recommendations for further improvement, as necessary, and endorse the revised draft strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015.

CONTENTS

Introduction

1.   In introducing the proposed programme budget for 2012-2013 to the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General indicated that he would continue the process of strengthening the organization through the preparation of its proposed strategic framework and programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.

2.   Since the United Nations programme of work should be demand driven by Member States and jointly developed by Member States and the Secretariat, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and other Commissions are required to conduct intergovernmental reviews of their respective parts of the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015, prior to consideration by the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) at its fifty-second session, which will be held in New York from 4 to 29 June 2012.

3.   The strategic framework of ESCWA for the biennium 2014-2015 is being developed according to the following four stages, set by the General Assembly:

   Stage 1: Development of a draft strategic framework by the ESCWA secretariat, based on the relevant global and regional mandates (time frame: September to December 2011);

   Stage 2: Refinement of the draft strategic framework by ESCWA member countries through the sixth meeting of the Technical Committee (time frame: December 2011);

   Stage 3: Consolidation of the proposed strategic framework of all programmes of the United Nations by the United Nations Secretariat (time frame: February to early April 2012);

   Stage 4: Global intergovernmental reviews by CPC, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly (time frame: June to December 2012).

4.   In September 2011, the ESCWA secretariat embarked on the preparation of the draft strategic framework of programme 19, Economic and social development in Western Asia,[*] for the biennium 2014-2015, by adopting the following methodology: (a) desk review of the recent mandates and recommendations by the Commission and its subsidiary bodies and the recent global mandates in the economic and social development fields; (b) desk review of the programme achievements of ESCWA in the past two biennia, namely 2008-2009 and 2010-2011; (c) regional situation analyses through ESCWA studies; (d) informal consultations with line ministries and Government offices through visits to member countries and during activities organized by ESCWA; and (e) consultations with other regional commissions and United Nations entities which are members of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs (ECESA).

5.   The Technical Committee, whose membership comprises senior officials from member countries and which is mandated by the Commission to follow up implementation of programme activities and support ESCWA in achieving its aims, reviewed the draft strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015 during its sixth meeting (Beirut, 1-2 December 2011).

6.   The revised draft strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015, as submitted to the Commission at its twenty-seventh session, takes into account the comments provided by member countries during the sixth session of the Technical Committee.

---

[*]   Note that the programme number for the work of ESCWA "Economic and social development in Western Asia" was changed from 18 to 19 for the biennium 2014-2015, according to General Assembly determinations for the programme of work of the United Nations.

7.   The Commission is invited to review the overall programme orientation and focus areas and strategies contained therein, taking into account the specific mandates issued by the Commission and the general mandates issued by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, make concrete recommendations for further improvement, as necessary, and endorse the revised draft strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015. The decisions made by the Commission will be immediately communicated by the Chairperson of the present session to the Chairperson of the CPC fifty-second session.

I. OVERALL ORIENTATION

19.1   The overall orientation of programme 19, Economic and social development in Western Asia, is to foster comprehensive, equitable, integrated and sustainable economic and social development through effective economic and social cooperation in the region, and to maintain and strengthen economic relations between ESCWA member countries and with other countries of the world while paying special consideration to the least developed countries (LDC) and conflict-stricken countries. ESCWA is responsible for the implementation of the programme.

19.2   Policy direction for the programme is provided in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1818 (LV) dated 9 August 1973 and 1985/69, establishing ESCWA and amending its terms of reference in order to underscore the social functions of the Commission. Further direction is provided in Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/50, in which ESCWA was requested to provide support to member countries in realizing the Millennium Development Goals, including by building capacity to formulate policies, monitor the progress made and measure its impact, and prepare regional reports. In addition, in its resolution 269 (XXIV) dated 11 May 2006, the Commission requested its Executive Secretary to increase coherence and synergy with other regional United Nations organizations and, through the Commission's lead role in the Regional Coordination Mechanism, foster partnerships and cooperation with those organizations.

19.3   As the regional arm of the United Nations, ESCWA will continue to foster economic integration at the subregional and regional levels, to promote the regional implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and to support regional sustainable development by contributing to bridging economic, social and environmental policy gaps in member countries. In order to achieve these objectives, ESCWA, through its convening power, will continue to advance multilateral dialogue, knowledge-sharing and networking at the regional level, and will work with other subregional and regional organizations to promote intraregional cooperation, and with the other regional Commissions to promote interregional cooperation.

19.4   Since late 2010, the political landscape of the ESCWA region has been experiencing dramatic transformations. ESCWA will play a crucial and unique role in facilitating government responses to the needs of their citizens by assisting member countries in addressing current policy weaknesses and enhancing their capacity to effectively address existing inequalities. It will also use its convening power to provide a forum for member countries to discuss and share views on overall economic, social and sustainable development issues in the region.

19.5   The strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015 takes into consideration the impending deadline for the achievement of MDGs, the year 2015, and as such emphasizes the importance of supporting member countries to fast track their commitments, in particular in line with the Global Action Plan agreed during the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly (MDG+10 Summit) in 2010.

A. STRATEGIC PILLARS: A NEW ARCHITECTURE TO RESPOND TO THE REGION'S CHALLENGES

19.6   In light of the challenges highlighted above and in order to capitalize on the opportunities presented by the movement towards a more expansive social and political horizon and to exploit the full potential capacity of ESCWA, an extensive process of consultation was initiated within and outside ESCWA on this draft strategic framework to ensure that the needs of member countries and their citizens are captured within its four-year vision (2012-2015).

19.7   The purpose of this exercise is to: (a) establish a medium term plan (2-4 years) up to the target date 2015 for the achievement of the MDGs; (b) provide a framework for a more effective integration of the work of ESCWA around three institutionally defined Strategic Pillars; (c) streamline planning processes and ensure greater coherence between the objectives and strategies, and the activities, outputs, and performance

measures; and (d) enable the subprogrammes to articulate the way by which their work intends to have an impact on the economic and social development challenges in the region. This will increase the impact of the activities undertaken by ESCWA and facilitate the review and evaluation aimed at measuring the impact of the organization at the institutional level.

19.8   ESCWA will focus its work towards inclusive and sustainable development in the region. Its programme comprises seven interdependent subprogrammes that focus on three Strategic Pillars that serve as mainstays for work to be implemented on 12 priority areas underpinned by three cross-cutting issues. Specifically, ESCWA is expanding its integrated planning approach so that several or all of ESCWA subprogrammes have a joint role in contributing to the impacts ESCWA is to achieve in each of the three Strategic Pillars and that there are no Strategic Pillars that are solely the purview of any single subprogramme. Thus, the strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015 not only reflects the work of individual units but also presents ESCWA as a fully integrated organization.

19.9   ESCWA Strategic Pillars are: **Equitable Growth and Sustainability; Regional Integration;** and **Good Governance and Resilience.**

19.10   Using these three Strategic Pillars, ESCWA is building fully integrated programmes with priority areas that are the focus of more than one subprogramme. Throughout its work, ESCWA will achieve more than simply implementing the programmed outputs. It will target predetermined and measurable outcomes under each priority area and will require changes in practice by member countries in line with the objectives expressed in each integrated subprogramme. To this end, ESCWA will shift the focus of its implementation and monitoring efforts from the individual outputs or workplan of each subprogramme to the overall contribution of the subprogramme to the outcomes established for each priority area and Strategic Pillar.

1. *Equitable Growth and Sustainability*

19.11   Under the Strategic Pillar of **Equitable Growth and Sustainability**, ESCWA will increase the capacity of member countries to formulate and/or implement policies that promote equitable, resilient and sustainable development as a critical tool for broadening opportunities for human development through equitable and sustainable growth. Under this Strategic Pillar, ESCWA will focus on three priority areas: **Equity, Inclusion and Employment; Competitive Knowledge-based Economies; and Sustainable Natural Resource Management.**

19.12   For the priority area of **Equity, Inclusion and Employment**, ESCWA will work on strengthening the capacity of member countries to develop and improve inclusive and equitable socioeconomic conditions through integrated workplans by subprogrammes 1, 2 and 3, which will focus on: (a) developing rights-based social policies that promote social integration, social protection, the provision of adequate social services and employment generation; (b) designing pro-poor growth policies focused on employment generation and inclusive and equitable financial policies; and (c) increasing the productivity of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) for employment creation and economic diversification. For the priority area of **Competitive Knowledge-based Economies**, ESCWA will build integrated workplans for subprogrammes 3 and 5 focusing on enhancing the capacity of member countries to develop and fully operationalize knowledge-based economies for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation through effective macroeconomic management as well as promoting economic diversification and competitiveness for decent job creation. For the priority area of **Sustainable Natural Resource Management**, ESCWA will enhance the capacity of member countries to develop and implement national, subregional and regional policies, strategies and action plans for the sustainable management of water, energy and land in line with major United Nations conferences on sustainable development and relevant multilateral environmental agreements. This work will be led by subprogramme 1.

2. *Regional Integration*

19.13   Under the Strategic Pillar of **Regional Integration**, ESCWA will seek to increase prosperity for the people of the region as a result of strengthened regional cooperation. Under this Strategic Pillar, ESCWA will focus on five priority areas: **Knowledge and Technology Management; Sustainable Infrastructure; Socio-economic Policy Coordination; Food, Water and Energy Security; and Gender-sensitive Policies and Legislation**.

19.14   For the priority area of **Knowledge and Technology Management**, ESCWA will accelerate the realization of an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society in the region. This work will be led by subprogramme 4. For the priority area of **Sustainable Infrastructure**, ESCWA will enhance integration of member countries through developing and harmonizing the physical and legislative regional infrastructure including the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq associated frameworks. Work in this priority area will be led by subprogramme 3. For the priority area of **Socio-economic Policy Coordination**, ESCWA will promote regionally coordinated social and economic policies, and ensure the implementation of regional economic agreements to achieve the potential for intraregional integration and build a harmonized policy framework for the legislation required to govern e-commerce, e-service, e-trade and e-business between Arab countries. This effort will require the integrated work of subprogrammes 3 and 4 including the full contribution of the ESCWA Technology Centre located in Jordan. For the priority area of **Food, Water and Energy Security**, ESCWA, led by subprogramme 1, will work to enhance the level of food, water and energy security in the Arab region, for its sustained long-term development and to preserve the achievements in poverty alleviation and human development of the region by promoting regional cooperation on shared water resources, energy networks, and land management. For the priority area of **Gender-sensitive Policies and Legislation**, ESCWA will promote regional integration in that regard by supporting the adoption of gender-sensitive policies and legislation in order to attain equal rights of women in line with international conferences, conventions and internationally agreed development goals. This effort will be led by subprogramme 6.

3. *Good Governance and Resilience*

19.15   Under the Strategic Pillar of **Good Governance and Resilience**, ESCWA will strengthen the capacity of member countries to build engagement between government and people based on citizenship, to identify and respond to potential conflict and other vulnerabilities, and to formulate resilience measures to mitigate negative impacts. Under this Strategic Pillar, ESCWA will focus on four priority areas: **Participation and Citizenship; Socio-economic Impacts of Conflict and Occupation; Institutional Development; and Resilience to Natural and Human-made Crises**.

19.16   For the priority area of **Participation and Citizenship**, ESCWA will encourage the adoption and implementation of participatory and inclusive governance and national development policies based on the equal participation of men and women, with a focus on enhancing the position of women in democratic decision-making processes and ensuring the participation of civil society and other stakeholders in public policy formulation, implementation and monitoring. This priority area will require integrated workplans by subprogrammes 2, 6 and 7. For the priority area of **Socio-economic Impacts of Conflict and Occupation**, ESCWA, led by subprogramme 7, will support member countries in mitigating the negative impact of occupation and the ramifications of conflict and their spillover effects on human development in the region, particularly the least developed countries. For the priority area **Institutional Development**, ESCWA will seek, through the integrated work of subprogrammes 3, 6 and 7, to support public institutions in member countries in creating an enabling environment for development, pre-empting conflict, and achieving reconciliation and peace through: (a) nationally led and owned good governance practice for the implementation of enhanced macroeconomic management; (b) promoting efficient, transparent and accountable civil service, including effective public service delivery, as tools to pre-empt conflict and achieve reconciliation and peace; and (c) using institutional development and good governance structures to promote the adoption of legislation and national action plans to combat gender-based violence. For the

priority area of **Resilience to Natural and Human-made Crises**, ESCWA will seek, through subprogramme 1, to develop the capacity of member countries to absorb and respond to the impact of crises through the development of sound policies, including the development of subregional and regional mechanisms for a coordinated response to climate change and natural crises.

B. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

19.17   The programme of work of ESCWA will be guided by three cross-cutting issues: **Partnerships, Knowledge Management and Gender** under which the workplan of subprogramme 5, Statistics for evidence-based policymaking, is focused.

1. *Partnerships*

19.18   Taking into account the new set of corporate Strategic Pillars and the relatively limited human and financial resources, it becomes vital and instrumental to develop holistic strategic partnerships with other regional stakeholders, which in turn should contribute to the fulfillment of the objectives of ESCWA.

19.19   ESCWA is reviewing each priority area to identify the relevant actors from sister agencies, civil society organizations, private sector and others with whom it would be strategically opportune to ally in order to maximize the success in implementing ESCWA workplans. The sum of the different actions and the respective partners identified to carry them out will provide a framework for comprehensive memoranda of understanding that will benefit the region as a whole. Principally, during the biennium 2012-2013 ESCWA will complete a five-year comprehensive agreement with the League of Arab States that will cement the relationship between the two organizations for the biennium 2014-2015 and ensure that the synergies and complementarities between them are fully exploited.

19.20   ESCWA will particularly focus on promoting South-South cooperation between member countries and with other developing countries through sister regional commissions to use South-South cooperation as a catalyst to improve capacity development efforts and to identify opportunities for intraregional activities.

2. *Knowledge Management*

19.21   The work of ESCWA requires that ESCWA become a leading knowledge-based institution and thus devote a higher level of attention to knowledge sharing. This applies to internal processes within the ESCWA secretariat, to the work of its intergovernmental, technical and expert bodies, and to the relationship with member countries and partners.

19.22   ESCWA, through its convening power, has a significant knowledge dissemination potential that has yet to be used to its full extent. A core role of the intergovernmental processes is to facilitate exchange of experience among experts from countries in the region with a view to accelerating the development of their technical, decision-making, governance and management skills, and implementing new policy options learned from their peers. In particular, ESCWA will follow up on technical and expert group meetings, workshops and seminars, maintain and moderate networks of experts and stimulate a productive exchange of information.

19.23   Through the work of subprogramme 5, Statistics for evidence-based policymaking**,** ESCWA has taken the lead in the coordination of statistical information in the region, and aims to: (a) improve the provision of statistical data about member countries through the collection and dissemination of official statistics and indicators in support of informed policymaking; (b) enhance national capacity of member countries to produce relevant, timely, reliable and comparable official statistics in line with the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics; and (c) strengthen a regional statistical system in support of regional integration.

19.24   ESCWA will utilize its leadership position in the Statistics Coordination Taskforce of the Regional Coordination Mechanism to promote coordination of statistics among national and international organizations active in the region. ESCWA has also put in place an internal coordination mechanism for statistical activities.

3. *Gender*

19.25   Gender is a cross-cutting issue that deeply influences all the areas of work undertaken by ESCWA. Women and men have different needs and priorities in the development process. They also differ in accessing and controlling resources. Therefore, each intervention by ESCWA has to take into account the gender dimension.

19.26   The work of ESCWA in gender mainstreaming takes on two components. The first is to assist member countries in promoting gender equality and the advancement of women. The second is to integrate a gender perspective in the entire programme of work.

19.27   ESCWA will continue to lead among United Nations entities the implementation of the United Nations system-wide action plan (SWAP) on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women which was endorsed by the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) in 2006.

19.28   ESCWA will also continue to carry out analytical and normative work, supplemented by the provision of technical cooperation support in line with the articulated needs of member countries. It will act as a facilitator for the exchange of knowledge and information by providing a forum for networking and multilateral dialogue on regional and global development issues, while paying due consideration to the advancement of South-South cooperation. Special attention will be given to the promotion of gender mainstreaming through the programme of work and within the Commission, in pursuance of the global priorities of the United Nations. Similarly, lessons derived from evaluation exercises will be consolidated to improve the design and performance of programmes, in view of the United Nations commitment to encourage and support evaluation practice to enhance learning and accountability.

19.29   It is anticipated that the consultations which have taken place among the thematic clusters of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs will contribute to enhanced coordination and collaboration in major common work areas of the United Nations Secretariat dealing with economic and social development. Moreover, through its leadership of the Regional Coordination Mechanism, ESCWA will strive to facilitate consultation processes among the United Nations entities concerned, leading to the identification of priority areas where collective support for development interventions could be provided, whether at the level of the ESCWA region or in the broader context of the Arab region.

19.30   The indicators of achievement used in the log frames below are intended to measure the direct impact of the work undertaken by ESCWA and to show a link between the implementation of the programme of work and the expected accomplishments.

II. SUBPROGRAMMES

Subprogramme 1. Integrated management of natural resources
for sustainable development

1. *Logical framework*

Objective: To achieve sustainable development in the ESCWA region through integrated natural resource management.

Expected accomplishments		Indicators of achievement	
(a)	Strengthened capacity of member countries to develop and increase inclusive and equitable socio-economic opportunities through increasing the productivity of small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) for employment creation and economic diversification	(a) (i)	Increased number of measures formulated on SMEs by line ministries, chambers of commerce and other actors, to increase their productivity
		(ii)	Increased number of institutions involved in creating opportunities for generating employment through SMEs
(b)	Enhanced capacity of member countries to develop and implement national, subregional and regional policies, strategies and action plans for the sustainable management of water, energy and land	(b) (i)	Increased number of policies, plans and strategies adopted by concerned ministries in member countries addressing water, energy and land needs
		(ii)	Increased number of interventions to improve access to and efficiency of water and energy services
(c)	Enhanced food, water and energy security of the Arab region, for its sustained long-term development, and preserved achievements in poverty alleviation and human development, through promoting regional cooperation on shared water resources, energy networks, and land management	(c)	Increased number of intergovernmental recommendations adopted on regional cooperative initiatives related to water, energy and food security
(d)	Enhanced resilience and crisis management capacity of member countries to absorb and respond to the impact of crises, including the development of subregional and regional mechanisms for a coordinated response to climate change and natural crises	(d)	Increased number of recommendations adopted by member countries, that aim to achieve coordinated responses to climate change and natural crises

2. *Strategy*

19.31   The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 1 is vested in the Sustainable Development and Productivity Division. The interrelated and complex challenges facing the region and the current social and political tensions have wide-range consequences that require concerted efforts to strengthen the interlinkages between the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development and to galvanize action at the national and regional levels. The regional challenges include increasing population pressure and the

related rise in demand for water and energy services; rising unemployment, particularly among youth; unsustainable production and consumption patterns; the need to ensure water, energy and food security; the disparity between urban and rural development; low agricultural productivity; traffic congestion and unsustainable transport systems; and climate change and its impact on water resources, desertification and land management.

19.32   To enhance the impact of the work of ESCWA and improve services provided to the countries of the region, the subprogramme will provide support to the countries of the region to address the above-mentioned challenges and to move towards a more sustainable development path.

19.33   The subprogramme will undertake/continue to:

(a)   Advocate and raise awareness of the countries of the region on global commitments and the outcome of major United Nations conferences/summits on sustainable development, particularly on the MDGs and the outcome of Rio+20, and monitor and support follow-up actions;

(b)   Serve as a forum for promoting policy dialogue on sustainable development issues and priorities for forging regional positions and perspectives based on the exchange of information, lessons learned and best practice;

(c)   Support member countries in their efforts to improve the efficient use of renewable and non-renewable water, energy and land resources, including the application of appropriate environment-friendly technologies, and encourage the integrated management of water, energy and land to achieve sustainable development;

(d)   Facilitate regional cooperation and coordination on water, energy and land as the means to enhance food, water and energy security;

(e)   Contribute to national and regional capacity-building, especially on water, energy, including renewable energy, and agricultural issues;

(f)   Support the development of national/regional mechanisms for the integration of the economic, social and environmental pillars for sustainable development;

(g)   Support the development of national/regional mechanisms to address climate change impacts;

(h)   Support the efforts of member countries to strengthen SMEs for job creation and economic diversification.

19.34   This will be achieved through servicing intergovernmental bodies; conducting quality research and analytical work; organizing intergovernmental and expert meetings; providing advisory services; implementing field projects, including extrabudgetary and United Nations Development Account projects; building capacity through workshops and other technical assistance activities; and, issuing technical material to raise awareness of key sustainable development issues and challenges targeted for global and regional action in 2014 and 2015.

19.35   The subprogramme will strive to maximize synergies through collaboration with United Nations agencies and organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and through participation in UN-Water and UN-Energy, and the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM). It will continue to cooperate with the League of Arab States and its associated bodies, particularly with the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment, the Arab Ministerial Council for Water, the Arab Ministerial Council for Electricity as well as other regional mechanisms for coordination on sustainable development.

Subprogramme 2. Social development

1. *Logical framework*

Objective: To enhance the capacity of member countries to adopt social policies and institutional mechanisms that lead to an equitable and inclusive process of socio-economic development, taking into consideration regional specificities.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened capacity of member countries to develop a rights-based social policy that promotes social integration, social protection, the provision of adequate social services and employment generation	(a) (i) Increased number of new policies, programmes and measures developed, that aim to expand social protection, improve the provision of social services and generate employment
	(ii) Increased number of policies and programmes that are formulated or enhanced to ensure the integration of key socio-demographic groups, including youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and migrants in national development processes
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to adopt social development policies and programmes based on the participation of civil society and other stakeholders, in public policy formulation, implementation and monitoring	(b) (i) Increased number of instances in which governments, civil society organizations and other stakeholders participate in developing, implementing and monitoring social development policies and programmes
	(ii) Increased number of committees and joint ventures between representatives of governments, civil society organizations and other stakeholders, entrusted with the formulation, implementation and monitoring of social policies and programmes

2. *Strategy*

19.36   The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 2 lies with the Social Development Division. The subprogramme will build on the experience gained in previous biennia and will continue to advocate equity, social justice, inclusion and participation as the guiding social development principles.

19.37   During the biennium 2014-2015, particular attention will be paid to promoting social development through: (a) a rights-based approach to social policy and social protection; (b) social integration; (c) special focus on such key socio-demographic groups as youth, the elderly and migrants; (d) employment generation; and (e) participatory development.

19.38   Inclusive societies that successfully integrate all social groups into the national development process are better equipped to maintain social cohesion during times of crisis, and to avoid socio-political upheaval. In that regard, there is an urgent need to promote social integration, employment generation and civil society participation in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of public policies involving three different types of activities: (a) identification of citizens' priorities over alternative social development outcomes;

(b) formulation and implementation of policies based on those priorities; and (c) monitoring policy impact on the lives of those who are affected.

19.39   The subprogramme will seek to build the capacity of member countries to mainstream social equity concerns in their public policymaking and will also assist them in the implementation of internationally agreed plans of action and recommendations, including the Millennium Development Goals, in the run-up to the deadline for their implementation in 2015.

19.40   The subprogramme will undertake both normative and technical cooperation activities. The normative activities will include research and analysis on social development issues, the preparation of substantive reports and the organization of expert group meetings. Technical cooperation activities will include the provision of advisory services, capacity development workshops and field projects, notably in the areas of youth development, social protection and civil society participation.

19.41   Partnerships will be further strengthened with other regional commissions, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and civil society groups. In the process, the subprogramme will also act as a regional platform for the exchange of experiences, good practice and lessons learned in the field of social development, and for increased interaction between Western Asia and other regions of the world.

Subprogramme 3. Economic development and integration

1. *Logical framework*

Objective: To achieve a decent standard of living through sustained economic development and integration.

Expected accomplishments		Indicators of achievement
(a)	Strengthened capacity of member countries to develop inclusive and equitable socio-economic conditions through pro-poor growth policies focused on employment generation and inclusive and equitable financial policies	(a) (i) Increased number of member countries adopting an inclusive and fair macroeconomic framework
		(ii) Increased number of policies and measures adopted by member countries to implement the Monterrey Consensus
(b)	Enhanced capacity of member countries to develop knowledge-based economies with a view to achieving sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation through effective macroeconomics as well as promoting economic diversification and competitiveness for decent job creation	(b) Increased number of member countries that request ESCWA's support in developing national strategies for knowledge-based economy and competitiveness
(c)	Enhanced capacity of member countries to coordinate their social and economic policies, and ensure the implementation of regional economic agreements to achieve the potential for intraregional integration	(c) (i) Increased number of agreements between member countries on macroeconomic policy coordination
		(ii) Increased number of member countries implementing regional agreements

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(d) Enhanced regional integration of member countries through developing and harmonizing the physical and legislative regional infrastructure	(d) Increased number of member countries adopting the transport agreements and/or establishing national transport and trade committees
(e) Enhanced capacity of public institutions to create an enabling environment for development through nationally led and owned good governance practices for the implementation of enhanced macroeconomic management with the full engagement of civil society organizations and the private sector	(e) Increased number of member countries requesting ESCWA's support in governance reforms in line with macroeconomic changes

2. *Strategy*

19.42   The responsibility for implementing this subprogramme lies with the Economic Development and Globalization Division. The Millennium Development Goals, the revised Damascus Declaration on Responding to the International Financial Crisis in the ESCWA Region, the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, the Doha Development Agenda, the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq, and the relevant General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and ESCWA resolutions provide the legislative mandates for the subprogramme.

19.43   During the biennium 2014-2015, particular attention will be paid to promoting economic development through: (a) adopting an inclusive and equitable approach to fostering economic development as well as sound development policies and strategies taking the region's specific challenges into account; (b) promoting regional integration to the benefit of all people in the region; (c) developing innovative approaches to financing for development; and (d) enhancing economic diversification to increase resilience to shocks of national economies.

19.44   Inclusive economic growth and more equitable distribution of income are at the core of the demands by the region's populations and they will be the main directives of the subprogramme in the biennium 2014-2015. In that context, there is an urgent need to promote and support the implementation of effective regional economic development policies and strategies that would accelerate the achievement of internationally agreed development goals such as the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Efforts to promote regional integration include integrated transport systems, intraregional as well as international trade, implementation and monitoring of the Monterrey Consensus, and follow-up on the recommendations of the International Conference on Financing for Development (taking into consideration the consequences of the global economic and financial crisis). To achieve those objectives, the following activities will be undertaken: (a) developing and using such economic analysis and forecasting tools as macroeconomic models, which in turn enable sound policy recommendations based on the short- as well as long-run projections; (b) conducting sound macro- and microeconomic research leading to reference and flagship publications (i.e. Arab Economic Outlook); and (c) providing (technical) assistance and capacity-building targeted to the individual needs of member countries (e.g. monitoring of policy impact on the economic development).

19.45   The subprogramme will achieve its main objective and eventually its five expected accomplishments by conducting and delivering innovative research, multidisciplinary integrated policy advise, capacity-building, implementation support, as well as monitoring and evaluation.

19.46   The subprogramme will work closely with relevant stakeholders in member countries including governments, development partners (including international financial institutions), civil society organizations and the private sector. Existing and emerging partnerships will be further strengthened with other regional commissions, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and civil society groups.

**Subprogramme 4. Information and communications technology
for regional integration**

1. *Logical framework*

Objective: To accelerate bridging the digital divide and adoption by member countries of an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society and knowledge-based economy for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation, in accordance with the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the internationally agreed development goals, through partnerships, innovation, knowledge and technology management.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries to fully develop and benefit from knowledge-based economies for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation	(a) (i) Increased number of member countries implementing information and communications technology (ICT), policies, strategies and plans of action that emphasize the development of knowledge-based economies
	(ii) Increased number of member countries showing progress in the implementation of internationally agreed indicators on knowledge-based economy
	(iii) Increased number of partnerships and technology-based projects and programmes launched and implemented in the region by the ESCWA Technology Centre
(b) Enhanced competitiveness of the ICT sector in the region on the production and service delivery levels, with special focus on partnerships, research, development and innovation	(b) (i) Increased number of regional initiatives for the development of information and knowledge societies through partnerships, research-development-innovation, and ICT applications
	(ii) Increased number of member countries using the Core ICT Indicators issued by the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technologies for Development
(c) Enhanced capacity of member countries to ensure the coordination of their socio-economic policies, fully achieve the potential for intraregional integration and build a harmonized policy framework for Internet governance and the legislation required for e-commerce, e-trade, e-service and e-business between Arab countries	(c) (i) Increased number of member countries joining regional or global initiatives/frameworks related to Internet governance and/or cybersafety
	(ii) Increased number of policymaking and legislative initiatives encouraging the use of cyberspace and e-commerce/ e-services in the ESCWA region

2. *Strategy*

19.47   The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 4 lies with the Information and Communication Technology Division. Regional and global changes are taking place at the economic, social, cultural and political levels, with information and knowledge playing a major role in the move towards the information and knowledge society. The accelerating development in knowledge during the past few decades has modified the principles of economic growth with the move towards a knowledge-based economy affecting all sectors of the economy. Significant differences exist in the capacity of countries to adapt to changes in technology and knowledge. With continued monitoring of activities pertaining to the WSIS Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and efforts to implement the ESCWA Regional Plan of Action for Building the Information Society, in harmonization with the Arab Information and Communications Technology Strategy of the League of Arab States, the subprogramme will strive to adapt the Summit outcomes to better serve the region and fine-tune plans of action in order to build an inclusive, people-centred information society that is based on productive national ICT sectors.

19.48   The subprogramme, in its effort to meet the needs of member countries, will carry out analytical studies, convene meetings, provide advisory services, act as a catalyst for change in policymaking and promote the adoption of a more comprehensive set of ICT measurements and indicators that will help strategic decision-making to identify priority areas of policy action and measure the impact of ICT on socio-economic development. It will assess and revise plans of action based on feedback by member countries, monitor progress, evaluate impacts and benchmark national development with other countries based on international indices, with a view to improving the productivity and competitiveness of the ICT sector in the region towards building a knowledge-based economy.

19.49   In order to enhance national capacity, with special focus on human resources development, and take advantage of the digital opportunities pertaining to socio-economic development in the region, field projects will incorporate a social dimension through the active involvement of local communities, with a focus on youth employment and the empowerment of women, in order to build a people-centered and development-oriented information and knowledge society.

19.50   The subprogramme will continue to place special emphasis on promoting an enabling environment and harnessing the development of ICT thematic applications, including e-services, e-government, the digital Arabic content and social media. In addition, the subprogramme will focus on leveraging ICTs for the development of knowledge-based economies in the region.

19.51   The ESCWA Technology Centre (ETC) will assist members countries and public and private institutions to acquire the tools and capabilities necessary to induce socio-economic development in order to attain technological parity with other countries and regions of the world and have economies of member countries rely more on scientific and technological knowledge by strengthening their capability to develop and manage national innovation systems; develop, transfer, adapt and apply technology; improve the terms of technology transfer; and identify and promote the development and transfer of technologies relevant to the region. In doing so, the ETC will utilize the resources and know-how available at other ESCWA Divisions and Centres and provide large-scale networking efforts.

19.52   The subprogramme will enhance regional collaboration and partnerships in harnessing research and development (R&D) in science and technology, particularly ICT, for socio-economic development. In that context, the subprogramme will continue to work with regional and global partners to enhance integrating infrastructure, regional backbones, and broadband strategies for more affordable access across the region.

Subprogramme 5. Statistics for evidence-based policymaking

1. *Logical framework*

Objective: To enhance the regional statistical system through statistical capacity development of member countries, in order to produce comparable, reliable, impartial, and relevant national data for evidence-based policymaking and research.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved provision of statistical data about member countries through collection and dissemination of official statistics and indicators	(a) (i) Increased number of member countries that provide at least 60 per cent of core socio-economic indicators
	(ii) Increased number of database queries to online ESCWA statistical databases
(b) Improved national capacity for official statistics of member countries in line with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	(b) Increased number of member countries adopting new or revised international statistical standards, including the System of National Accounts (SNA) and foundational socio-economic classifications in compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
(c) Strengthened regional statistical system in support of regional integration with active coordination among major players, including regional and international organizations, and a more active participation by member countries	(c) (i) Increased number of joint statistical capacity-building activities that are coordinated with regional partners
	(ii) Increased number of tangible outputs of statistical coordination (harmonized databases, joint questionnaires, joint data products) produced in the region

2. *Strategy*

19.53   The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 5 lies with the Statistics Division. There is a continued need to align the production and dissemination of statistics with the emerging societal changes due to the latest developments in the Arab region, by improving the relevance and comparability of statistics in social, economic and cross-cutting issues in a democratic society at the regional level. Addressing those challenges will strengthen the role of statistics in evidence-based policymaking and in monitoring and evaluating the impact of development policies.

19.54   ESCWA will seek partnerships with other organizations (United Nations, as well as non-United Nations) that are active in the field of statistics in the region. In that context, the subprogramme will coordinate statistical capacity development in order to achieve higher efficiency, and will share data and harmonize questionnaires in order to obtain more consistent data, decrease reporting burden and better utilize resources available for data work at each organization. To that end, ESCWA will primarily utilize the Regional Coordination Mechanism, in particular the Statistics Coordination Taskforce, and other means of coordination. ESCWA will also strengthen its internal coordination mechanism for statistical activities.

19.55   During the biennium 2014-2015, the subprogramme will concentrate on three main roles, namely: collection and dissemination of data; development of statistical capacity; and coordination of statistical activities with regional and international players in official statistics active in the region.

19.56   The priority areas for data collection, processing and dissemination include foundational demographic, social, economic and sectoral statistics that are a basis of official statistics. Data collection shall focus on collecting data directly from member countries and on sharing data with other partners active in the field of statistics in the region. Proper attention shall be paid to communicating statistics to the media and the public.

19.57   Statistics about the region can only be improved when the methodological and quality issues are addressed at the source – national statistical offices and other national producers of official statistics (national statistical systems). This will be addressed by identifying gaps and discrepancies and planning statistical capacity development programmes. Therefore, the statistical capacity development at the national level is at the core of any efforts aimed at ensuring better coverage, relevance, timeliness and comparability of data. The subprogramme will advocate the importance of full adherence to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, especially those which address the following issues: (a) the impartiality of official statistics and their availability to the public; (b) the use of appropriate methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data; and (c) the presentation of information on sources and methods according to internationally agreed standards.

19.58   ESCWA will take an active role in ensuring that major players in official statistics in the region coordinate their activities. Quality of statistical data is a primary concern to all producers and users of statistics. This involves such attributes of data as consistency, timeliness, international comparability, etc. In that regard, it is important to ensure that reporting burdens on member countries are minimized and that data are shared among international organizations to the maximum extent possible. To that end, ESCWA shall step in coordination of statistics among national and international organizations active in the region having the above objectives in mind, while respecting the needs and specifics of each involved organization.

19.59   In order to accomplish this strategy, the subprogramme will exert efforts to: (a) act as a centre of excellence and a forum for exchange of views on statistical issues for member countries; (b) provide training at the national, subregional and regional levels; (c) work, in close and/or direct cooperation and coordination with professional staff in national statistical offices of member countries, on data quality assurance and the implementation of international classifications and recommendations; (d) respond to requests for technical assistance coming from member countries; (e) assist in the exchange of expertise among member countries; and (f) build trust with counterparts in member countries.

Subprogramme 6. Advancement of women

1. *Logical framework*

Objective: To reduce gender imbalances, encourage exchange of lessons learned among member countries and contribute to increased respect of the rights of women in line with international conventions and conferences.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries to adopt gender-sensitive policies, legislation and budgets in order to attain equal rights of women	(a) (i) Increased number of initiatives (strategies, policies, and programmes) for the advancement of women, designed by national machineries for the advancement of women are adopted and implemented in member countries

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
	(ii) Increased number of national machineries for the advancement of women showing improved reporting in periodical reports submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to combat gender-based violence (GBV) through enactment of legislation and development of national action plans	(b) (i) Increased number of national strategies to combat GBV
	(ii) Increased number of legislation enacted to protect women from GBV
(c) Enhanced capacity of member countries to adopt and implement participatory governance and national development policies based on the equal participation of individuals, men and women, with a particular focus on enhancing the position of women in democratic decision-making processes	(c) (i) Increased number of national action plans that adopt a participatory approach, with special attention to the participation of women
	(ii) Increased number of civil society organizations working for the advancement of women, that participate in public policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes

2. *Strategy*

19.60   The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 6 lies with the ESCWA Centre for Women. Notwithstanding the progress accomplished by ESCWA member countries towards the advancement of women, the economic participation of women and their representation at the economic and political decision-making levels continue to be lower than in other regions of the world. Furthermore, combating violence against women remains a serious challenge in the region, especially in conflict-stricken areas. Moreover, current popular movements represent a risk as they may result in the reversal of acquired gains in women's rights. Therefore, there is a need to foster greater participation of civil society, especially women and the youth, in public policy formulation and active dialogue with governments.

19.61   Building on the experience gained in past biennia, the subprogramme will intensify its efforts to enhance the institutional capacity of national machineries for the advancement of women, and other stakeholders such as members of parliament, the judiciary, the media and civil society institutions, through regular dissemination of new knowledge on gender issues, the provision of advocacy tools and research methodology, and the development of in-house training, knowledge and skills. The subprogramme will also provide forums in which national machineries for the advancement of women in the ESCWA and other regions can actively share knowledge and experiences in the area of gender mainstreaming and implementation of international women instruments.

19.62   The subprogramme will work on building the capacity of member countries and other stakeholders in combating GBV through the enactment of special laws to protect women from violence and end impunity for this crime. In line with this endeavour, due attention will be paid to the national machineries for the

advancement of women in conflict-stricken countries in order to address the special needs of women living in those areas.

19.63   The subprogramme will work on ensuring that men and women are actively engaged in policy dialogue with governments. In that context, the subprogramme will work on building the capacity of civil society institutions in public policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes through the organization of capacity-building workshops and promulgation of normative and analytical work. The subprogramme will act as a regional forum for joint governmental and non-governmental discussions on gender issues.

19.64   The subprogramme has been active in fostering relationships between government bodies dealing with the empowerment and advancement of women and civil society organizations through meetings to analyse and discuss the situation of women at the regional level. It will continue to work closely with other United Nations entities and regional organizations, including UN-Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Programme/ Subregional Resource Facility for Arab States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Labour Organization, the League of Arab States, the Arab Women Organization and the Center for Arab Women Training and Research, in order to consolidate and enhance the impact of development support in the area of the advancement of women in the region.

Subprogramme 7. Conflict mitigation and development

1. *Logical framework*

Objective: To mitigate the impact of conflict and its spillover effects on people and development in the ESCWA region through strengthening dialogue, peacebuilding, governance and public sector modernization.

Expected accomplishments		Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries affected by conflict to adopt and implement participatory and inclusive governance and national development policies through engaging different tiers of government and non-State actors, in the development and governance process	(a) (i)	Increased number of State-building initiatives and regulatory frameworks catering to enhancing national identity and strengthening resilience to conflict
	(ii)	Increased percentage of participants in forums organized by ESCWA who acknowledge having benefited from those forums and their recommendations
	(iii)	Increased number of member countries who approached ESCWA for technical or substantive assistance in enhancing national identity and citizenship
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to mitigate the negative impact of occupation, the ramification of conflict and their spillover effects on human development in the region, particularly on the Arab least developed countries	(b) (i)	Increased percentage of government representatives acknowledging that they have benefited from the analysis and policy recommendations contained in ESCWA publications on conflict and its ramifications

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
	(ii) Increased number of policies and measures adopted by member countries to implement the Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020
	(iii) Increased percentage of participants in forums organized by ESCWA who acknowledge having benefited from those forums and their recommendations
(c) Enhanced capacity of public institutions of member countries to create an enabling environment for development and pre-empting conflict, by promoting efficient, transparent and accountable civil service, including effective service delivery	(c) (i) Increased number of public institutions and civil society organizations applying nationally led and owned good governance practice for strengthening the institutional and organizational capacity of civil services to improve the quality of public service delivery
	(ii) Increased percentage of participants in forums organized by ESCWA who acknowledge having benefited from those forums and their recommendations
	(iii) Increased number of member countries who approached ESCWA for technical or substantive assistance in improving the quality of public service delivery

2. *Strategy*

19.65   The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 7 lies with the Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues Division. The ESCWA region development process has mostly been characterized by limited poor indicators of governance and socio-economic development, particularly in conflict-afflicted countries. This has been even further exacerbated by rentierism and limited citizen participation in policy or decision-making. However, the events of 2011 have indicated a popular will that is demanding a change in developmental governance, including a strong demand for transparency, accountability and participation. ESCWA is increasingly expected to play a role in enhancing the capacity of member countries to adopt and implement good governance practice and inclusive approaches. ESCWA will aim to enhance peacebuilding and national identity, which will be the implicit outcome of a more effective public sector, accessible to all citizens and catering to national development priorities.

19.66   ESCWA will assist member countries in enhancing their capacity to mitigate the negative impact of conflict, including communal tensions, lack of proper resource distribution and limited participation, through the formulation of policies and programmes that enable State institutions to overcome the adverse effects of conflict and lead national reconciliation processes.

19.67   To achieve its expected accomplishments under the Strategic Pillar of Good Governance and Resilience, the subprogramme will focus on three main areas: (a) promotion of peacebuilding and inclusive governance; (b) identification and analysis of trends and suggestion of mitigation measures and increasing

awareness; and (c) institutional development and civil service advancement with the aim of improving service delivery.

19.68 Focus area (a) will be achieved through the identification and promotion of inclusive governance practice within State and non-State entities in order to secure citizens engagement in the decision-making processes, and through the enhancement of resource management capacity of different tiers of government with the aim of securing a more efficient and equitable distribution of services. To that end, the subprogramme will seek to engage relevant stakeholders (government, civil society organizations, academia and citizens) through meetings and staff missions so their perspective and knowledge are considered and included in the formulation of the subprogramme research, policy recommendations and capacity-building programmes.

19.69 Focus area (b) will be realized by conducting leading edge research on the root causes of conflict, its impact and spillover effects. The subprogramme will also conduct an analysis of the socio-economic impact of the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian Territories, through its regular annual publication on the subject, and will enhance awareness of the negative repercussions of occupation. This focus area will be supported by studies and reports based on field assessments and analysis of trends.

19.70 Focus area (c) will be realized by achieving capacity-development and knowledge-building through meetings, advisory services and staff missions and research on institutional development strategies to strengthen public sector performance, provide top quality policy options and share best practice. To that end, the subprogramme will promote the establishment of mechanisms for exchange of information and best practice among decision-makers across the region, particularly on the topics of public service delivery, support for the least developed countries in the region, and good governance.

<u>Annex</u>

LEGISLATIVE MANDATES

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/270 A & B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
61/16	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
62/208	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations
63/232	Operational activities for development
64/1	High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
64/210	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
64/221	South-South Cooperation
64/223	Towards global partnerships
65/126	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Leagues of Arab States
65/140	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference
65/171	Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
65/174	Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)
65/191	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
65/214	Human rights and extreme poverty
65/311	Multilingualism
66/155	The right to development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1818(LV)	Establishment of an economic commission for Western Asia
1985/69	Amendment of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Western Asia: Change of name of the Commission
1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
2005/50	The Damascus Declaration and the role of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in the achievement of the internationally agreed developed goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration
2008/8	Admission of the Sudan as a member of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
2008/21	Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda

2009/29	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16
2010/13	Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
2010/22	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2010/27	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
2010/38	The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States
2011/2	Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its ninth session
2011/5	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women
2011/6	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

ESCWA resolutions

258 (XXIII)	Strengthening technical cooperation in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
260 (XXIII)	Development and regional cooperation under unstable conditions
261 (XXIII)	Strengthening the cooperation between ESCWA and the League of Arab States in the field of Economic and Social Development
263 (XXIII)	Promoting partnership and resource mobilization
268 (XXIII)	Adoption of the final reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
269 (XXIV)	The role of ESCWA in light of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and the subsequent change process
272 (XXIV)	Youth employment in ESCWA member countries
286 (XXV)	Gender statistics for equality and empowerment of women
289 (XXV)	Supporting the comprehensive development efforts of Yemen
300 (XXVI)	Adoption of session reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
301 (XXVI)	Adoption of the draft strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013

Subprogramme 1. Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development

General Assembly resolutions

57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
63/217	Natural disasters and vulnerability
63/281	Climate change and its possible security implications
64/197	Agricultural technology for development

64/198	Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015
64/201	United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010-2020)
64/206	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy
65/151	International Year of Sustainable Energy for All, 2012
65/154	International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013
65/157	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
65/160	Implementation of the UN Convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa
65/178	Agriculture development and food security
65/152	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Outcomes of the World Summit for Sustainable Development
65/153	Follow-up to the International Year for Sanitation, 2008

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2006/49	Outcome of the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests
2009/28	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of the 2008 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 2008

ESCWA resolutions

269 (XXIV)	The role of ESCWA in light of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and the subsequent changes process
281 (XXV)	Addressing climate change issues in the Arab region

Subprogramme 2. Social development

General Assembly resolutions

64/154	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto
64/166	Protection of migrants
65/170	International migration and development
65/186	Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond
65/312	Outcome document of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding
66/121	Policies and programmes involving youth
66/122	Promoting social integration through social inclusion
66/124	High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities
66/125	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

| 66/126 | Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family |
| 66/127 | Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2006/4	Sustained economic growth for social development, including the eradication of poverty and hunger
2006/15	Promoting youth employment
2006/16	Comprehensive and integral international convention to protect and promote the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities
2006/18	Future organization of the work of the Commission on Social Development
2007/2	The role of the United Nations System in providing full and productive employment and decent work for all
2008/18	Promoting full employment and decent work for all
2010/12	Promoting social integration
2010/13	Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
2010/14	Future implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
2011/5	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women
2011/27	Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
2011/28	Modalities for the second review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

ESCWA resolutions

285 (XXV)	Integrated social policy
295 (XXVI)	Guiding declaration of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on giving greater attention to youth policies: an opportunity for development
298 (XXVI)	Social development

Subprogramme 3. Economic development and integration

General Assembly resolutions

64/188	International trade and development
64/191	External debt sustainability and development
64/255	Improving global road safety
65/10	Sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth for poverty eradication and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
65/145	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development
65/178	Agriculture development and food security

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2006/4	Sustained economic growth for social development, including the eradication of poverty and hunger
2007/36	United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development
2008/18	Promoting full employment and decent work for all
2009/30	A strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up
2011/38	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

ESCWA resolutions

270 (XXIV)	Macroeconomic policy for financial stability
279 (XXIV)	Follow-up to implementation of components of the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq
290 (XXV)	Call for regional action to accelerate implementation of the Monterrey Consensus in Western Asia
296 (XXVI)	Enhancing public sector institutions and resources to attain national development goals

Subprogramme 4. Information and communications technology for regional integration

General Assembly resolutions

60/252	World Summit on Information Society
64/130	Policies and programmes involving youth
64/212	Science and technology for development
65/141	Information and communications technologies for development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2007/8	Flow of information for the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society
2009/8	Science and technology for development
2010/5	Establishment of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia Technology Centre
2011/16	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

ESCWA resolutions

273 (XXIV)	Follow-up to the development of the Information Society in Western Asia
294 (XXVI)	Establishment of the ESCWA technology centre

Subprogramme 5. Statistics for evidence-based policymaking

General Assembly resolutions

64/137	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
64/139	Violence against women migrant workers
64/217	Women in development
65/170	International migration and development
65/186	Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond
66/127	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2006/6	Strengthening statistical capacity
2011/5	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women
2011/27	Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and mainstreaming disability in the development agenda

ESCWA resolutions

276 (XXIV)	Strengthening statistical capacities in the ESCWA region
283 (XXV)	ESCWA member country compliance with international standards for enhancing national statistical systems
287 (XXV)	Strengthening statistical capacities for evidence-based policymaking
295 (XXVI)	Guiding Declaration of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on giving greater attention to Youth Policies: An Opportunity for Development
297 (XXVI)	Arab MDG monitor for societal progress

Subprogramme 6. Advancement of women

General Assembly resolutions

64/137	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
64/217	Women in development
66/131	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
66/132	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2011/18	Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

ESCWA resolutions

278 (XXIV)	Increasing the role of women in decision-making with respect to conflict prevention and peace building
293 (XXVI)	Upgrading the ESCWA Centre for Women to the level of a division and follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in the Arab countries after fifteen years: Beijing + 15

Subprogramme 7. Conflict mitigation and development

General Assembly resolutions

64/185	Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the Occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources
66/118	Assistance to the Palestinian people
66/146	The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2010/31	Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan
2011/2	Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its ninth session
2011/22	Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its tenth session

Security Council resolutions

1645 (2005)	Post-conflict peace-building
1947 (2010)	Post-conflict peace-building

ESCWA resolutions

271 (XXIV)	Strengthening the role of ESCWA in addressing the impact of conflict and instability within the context of social and economic development
282 (XXV)	Mitigating the impact on development of conflict, occupation and instability in ESCWA member countries
292 (XXVI)	Upgrading the Section for Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues to the level of a division and establishing a governmental committee on emerging issues and development in conflict settings
296 (XXVI)	Enhancing public sector institutions and resources to attain national development goals

-----