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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

REPORT

OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE BEIRUT, 1-2 DECEMBER 2011

Summary

The Technical Committee of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) held its sixth meeting in Beirut on 1 and 2 December 2011, bringing together representatives of ESCWA member countries.

The Committee agenda included diverse items, specifically: the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015; the ongoing preparations for the twenty-seventh session of ESCWA to be held in May 2012; progress achieved in the implementation of recommendations made by the Technical Committee at its fifth meeting; and views of member countries on the work of ESCWA.

This report reviews significant issues raised in the discussions and the main recommendations adopted by participants following the discussion of each agenda item.

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Introduction

1. The Technical Committee was established pursuant to the decision of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) at its twenty-fourth session held in Beirut from 8 to 11 May 2006 for the purpose of enhancing direct communication between the secretariat of the Commission and member countries on issues of economic and social development. The Committee convenes periodically to follow up on global and regional developments and the implementation of ESCWA programme of work, as well as to provide support for its activities and projects.
2. The Technical Committee held its sixth meeting at the United Nations House in Beirut on 1 and 2 December 2011. Following the opening session in which participants reviewed the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015, the discussion of agenda items was initiated. Participants discussed the ongoing preparations for the twenty-seventh session of ESCWA.
3. On 2 December 2011, representatives of member countries and the secretariat discussed the remaining agenda items, mainly recommendations made by the Technical Committee at its fifth meeting, and the views of member countries on the work of ESCWA. This report covers the issues raised during discussions and the recommendations adopted by participants.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS

4. At the end of the sixth meeting, the Technical Committee reached a number of recommendations and suggestions, some of which were related to topics included on the agenda while others referred to the nature of the work of ESCWA, the Committee and member countries. Main recommendations included:
 - (a) To take into account the observations made by member countries and integrate them in the final strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015, in the light of the regulations governing the preparation of the framework at the United Nations, and providing members of the Technical Committee with the revised version before discussing it at the twenty-seventh session of the Commission;
 - (b) To hold the twenty-seventh session of the Commission in Beirut from 7 to 10 May 2012;
 - (c) To agree that the main theme of the twenty-seventh session of the Commission will be the role of participation and social justice in achieving sustainable and balanced development;
 - (d) To hold two round tables during the session on the preparations for the Rio+20 Conference in the Arab region and on inclusive financing for small and medium-sized enterprises and creating job opportunities;
 - (e) To stress the need to set the dates of meetings and send related documents by e-mail to member countries four weeks in advance, in order to give delegations sufficient time to review them, make observations and download them from the ESCWA website;
 - (f) To reiterate the recommendation made at the fifth meeting of the Technical Committee on the need to limit ESCWA membership to Arab countries for the purpose of enhancing cooperation with the League of Arab States, the Gulf Cooperation Council and other regional organizations, in accordance with ESCWA procedures;
 - (g) To coordinate with stakeholders in member countries in order to present a draft resolution at the twenty-seventh session on sustainable development in the Arab region and follow up the implementation of Rio+20 outcomes;

(h) To call upon the secretariat to coordinate with member countries hosting ESCWA meetings and activities in order to facilitate the participation of delegations from all member countries, and to provide representatives with timely visas and facilitation to ensure their participation in all the activities of the Commission.

II. ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

A. THE PROPOSED STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2014-2015 (Item 3 of the agenda)

5. The Technical Committee examined this item based on document E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/3 on the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015. The framework includes an overview of the general orientation of programme 19 on social and economic development in western Asia, and the strategy within each of the seven subprogrammes and the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement.

6. The seven subprogrammes cover the integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development; social development; economic development and integration; information and communication technology for regional integration; statistics for evidence-based policymaking; advancement of women; and conflict mitigation and development. When drafting the proposed strategic framework, the secretariat took into consideration the new priorities at the global and regional levels.

7. Under this item, the secretariat made a presentation to clarify the three strategic objectives of ESCWA and the priority areas within each objective as follows: (a) equitable growth and sustainability (equity, inclusion and employment; competitive knowledge-based economies; sustainable management of natural resources); (b) regional integration (technology and knowledge management; sustainable infrastructure; socio-economic policy coordination; food, water and energy security; gender sensitive policies and legislation); (c) good governance and resilience (participation and citizenship; socio-economic impacts of conflicts and occupation; institutional development; resilience in times of natural and human-made crises).

8. During the discussion that followed the presentation on the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015, a number of participants stressed the importance of growth and sustainability. They highlighted the relationship between growth and social policies stressing the importance of achieving social justice in this regard, which is essential to achieve and maintain long-term high growth rates. They also stressed the need for geographical distribution of growth within the countries and the region and the importance of focusing on activities that create more employment opportunities, particularly in view of the large number of youth in the Arab region. Some participants added that growth has always fallen under the Washington Consensus, which is regressing today in the light of changing global conditions. It is therefore necessary to adopt a new development paradigm that contributes to achieving sustainable development with respect to the requirements of social justice. Participants pointed to the role of the State in the developmental process, knowing that the developmental State concept was discussed in various meetings held by the United Nations lately, in particular with regards to African countries.

9. It is also essential to consider the various needs of Arab countries and focus the work of ESCWA on communities in addition to the nations of the region. ESCWA should focus on the areas that are most in need within each country.

10. Under this item, the Minister for Planning and Development Cooperation, Iraq, made an intervention in which he explained that Iraq has initiated a new phase of openness and good-neighbourliness after the withdrawal of American troops. The Minister stressed that Iraq needs technical rather than financial support, and the acceleration of the economic and social development process through the provision of adequate support to the private sector to encourage the culture of investment. He also noted the declining rates of poverty and unemployment in Iraq between 2010 and 2011. Commenting on the presentation, the Iraqi delegate set the priorities of her country in the field of development, namely: enhancing social and economic

development programmes; providing necessary expertise in the field in view of the transition of Iraq towards market economies; promoting sustainable development, in particular human development especially in the education sector and the rehabilitation of professional and technical training programmes to align them with the market needs and education outputs; supporting small and medium projects and Iraqi institutions to create employment; assigning ESCWA consultants from different specializations to Iraq; providing support to the national committee on population policies, which was recently established with the aim to improve and draft population and social policies; and providing support for research, studies and surveys in statistical fields.

11. Commenting on the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015, some participants stressed the need to reconsider the adopted indicators of achievement, particularly their accuracy and relevance to the expected outcomes. The secretariat clarified that the expected outcomes cannot be achieved by ESCWA alone. The connection between the indicators of achievement and the expected outcomes is based on concerted efforts of ESCWA and national actors in member countries, and measures the contribution of ESCWA to the overall outcome, which explains the disparity between the outcomes and the indicators.

12. A delegate raised a number of observations regarding the proposed strategic framework, most importantly the need to include a number of priority areas in the three main focal issues such as the development of youth and social protection schemes; and the need to enhance transparency and accountability through the development of legislation on the right to obtain information. The delegate also stressed the importance of developing gender-sensitive statistics in order to follow up and evaluate the relevance of policies with regards to women's issues. Therefore it is necessary to build national capacity in this field whether under the programme on women or on statistics.

B. ONGOING PREPARATIONS FOR THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF ESCWA (Item 4 of the agenda)

13. Under this item, the secretariat made a number of presentations centred on the ongoing preparations for the twenty-seventh session of ESCWA.

14. In the first presentation, the secretariat proposed two main themes for the twenty-seventh session of the Commission, namely: the institutional framework of sustainable development in the light of the preparation for Rio+20; and the role of technology in developing the Arab knowledge community. The secretariat proposed that delegates select one of the following topics for discussion in a round table parallel to the session, namely: participatory development; green economy in the context of sustainable development and fighting poverty; inclusive finance; developing an inclusive people-centred information society; and international trade in the ESCWA region. The secretariat called upon the delegates to select one of the proposed topics or propose other topics considered to be of importance to their countries. The secretariat concluded with an overview of the proposed agenda items.

15. The secretariat initiated the second presentation with an overview of the development of the concept of sustainable development leading to Rio+20, which focused on "the institutional framework of sustainable development" and "green economy in the context of sustainable development and fighting poverty". The Conference aims at renewing the political commitment to sustainable development; evaluating the progress made and the implementation gaps; and discussing new and emerging challenges and ways to face them. The secretariat then reviewed the challenges to sustainable development at the global and regional levels, highlighting new concepts and issues in this context, namely: climate change; green economy; the global financial crisis; and political tensions. After a detailed review of the ongoing preparations for Rio+20 in the Arab region, the secretariat explained the reasons that led to proposing the institutional framework of sustainable development in the preparations for Rio+20 as a main theme for the twenty-seventh session, and green economy in the context of sustainable development and fighting poverty as a main topic for the round table.

16. In the discussion on climate change, the secretariat pointed out that the major challenge ESCWA was facing was the way to adapt to the implications of climate change. ESCWA clarified that it is currently performing an assessment of climate change impacts and is working on integrating them in regional climate models in order to identify the appropriate policies needed to accommodate this change.

17. The third presentation focused on two topics, namely the inclusive people-centred information society, and the role of technology in the development of the Arab knowledge society. The presentation started with the definition of the information society in general, and highlighted its most important features and role in achieving sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals in the Arab region. An overview of data reflected the performance of the Arab region in building such a society, in particular data on Internet penetration rates and the ten most used languages on the Internet. The secretariat identified the requirements to build an information society in the Arab region: accelerating the development of the information technology infrastructure; establishing effective links between Arab countries in order to cut costs (economies of scale); and establishing regional clusters to store and exchange information and to make use of economies of scale. The second part of the presentation focused on the definition of knowledge society and knowledge-based economy and pointed to the knowledge, technological and digital gaps between countries that have acquired, used and produced knowledge and the countries that were unable to keep pace with this rapid development. Therefore, it is necessary for countries in the ESCWA region to achieve progress in this regard in order to enable equitable and balanced competition between all countries. To face the challenges of knowledge economies, the secretariat highlighted priorities in the Arab region as it presented its vision based on four pillars, namely: education and training; information infrastructure; appropriate economic and organizational environment; and the creativity matrix. The secretariat concluded its presentation with the identification of the role of ESCWA in this field at the national, regional and global levels.

18. The fourth presentation focused on inclusive finance in the ESCWA region. Although the banking system occupies the largest part of the Arab financial system, the lending process is still very limited and may exclude small and medium-sized enterprises, even though those enterprises are the most common in the Arab region. This contradiction constitutes the main problem the secretariat attempted to reflect in data. The Arab banking system is the most capable sector in the region in terms of financing for development and the creation of employment opportunities, because it can mobilize resources to serve the interests of small and medium-sized enterprises, which comprise the largest share of job opportunities. The Arab region has the highest unemployment rate in the world, in particular in terms of youth unemployment. Inter-Arab trade constitutes another tool to address this problem, as it could enhance the diversity of Arab economic structures, thus creating new job opportunities and enhancing integration in other fields such as food security.

19. In the fifth presentation, the secretariat highlighted the role of civil society in the process of transition to democracy. Civil society is currently undertaking an essential role in developing, implementing and monitoring new developmental policies after the popular movements that the Arab region witnessed.

20. The presentations of the secretariat were followed by discussions in which participants proposed important themes to be discussed at the twenty-seventh session of the Commission, namely: fair and sustainable economic growth, social justice and good governance; the lack of job opportunities versus the increase in the labour force; and water scarcity and possible impacts on sustainable development. With regards to the two themes proposed by the secretariat, participants noted that despite the important role of technology in developing the Arab knowledge society, this theme is rather technical and would be better discussed by experts in the field. As for the second theme, the institutional framework of sustainable development in the preparations for Rio+20, participants unanimously agreed to its importance in particular in the context of changes witnessed by the region during this period. However, they preferred to limit the choice to a particular aspect of the theme as it would be impossible to cover all aspects at once. Therefore, at the end of the discussion, “the role of participation and social justice in achieving sustainable and balanced development” was chosen as the main theme of the twenty-seventh session of the Commission. It was

decided that the preparations for Rio+20 in the Arab region and the inclusive financing for small and medium-sized enterprises and creating job opportunities would be discussed in round tables.

C. PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE WORK OF THE SECRETARIAT:
IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AT ITS FIFTH MEETING
(Item 5 of the agenda)

21. At the end of the fifth meeting, the Technical Committee reached a number of recommendations and suggestions, some of which were related to organizational and procedural topics while others referred to technical aspects. The main organizational recommendations were related to: the membership of ESCWA; the frequency of the meetings of the seven subsidiary organs; encouraging donors to provide ESCWA with extrabudgetary funds; the organizing of national workshops to introduce consultation services provided by ESCWA to relevant administrations; and the convening of meetings that bring together ESCWA and official focal points in member countries. The secretariat made a presentation on the adopted procedures to implement those recommendations, specifically: the invitation of some countries from the Arab Maghreb Union to attend the last meeting of the advisory committee as observers; maintaining the same frequency of the seven sessions of the subsidiary organs; sending letters to keep focal points and members of the advisory committee updated with the different activities undertaken by ESCWA; and organizing a number of national workshops in the field of technical cooperation in particular in the Sudan and Yemen.

22. With regards to recommendations on technical issues, the secretariat made a presentation on the preparation of a report concerning the progress made in the preparations for Rio+20, including a draft resolution on green economy in the Arab region. The secretariat presented its preparatory activities for Rio+20 at the regional level and called upon all stakeholders to activate their participation in the preparations at the regional and global levels. Recommendations made at the last regional preparatory meeting held in Cairo on 16 and 17 October 2011 were also presented. The secretariat informed the delegations of the results of that meeting, in particular some of the contentious issues that were brought up and issues that led to reservations and required further discussion. The secretariat concluded its presentation with an overview of the project entitled sustainable development in the region, follow-up and implementation of the decisions taken at the Rio+20 Conference, which was prepared pursuant to the above recommendation, and which will be presented at twenty-seventh session of ESCWA. The proposed project included all aspects of sustainable development including green economy and was distributed to participants.

23. During the discussion, a participant inquired about the involvement of ESCWA in the preparation of national reports for Rio+20 Conference as requested by the United Nations Development Programme. The secretariat indicated that it provides necessary assistance to countries drafting their reports. Participants also inquired about the possibility of benefiting from the funding provided by the European Union for the implementation of programmes and projects in the region. The secretariat confirmed the possibility and importance of such funding, in particular because the European Union is one of the strategic partners of ESCWA. The secretariat stated as an example the funding received from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

24. One of the delegates reaffirmed the need to inform member countries of any proposal the secretariat wishes to decide on during meetings. Countries would then be able to conduct consultations and set their position as to the proposal, and the delegates could express that position whenever the topic is brought up.

D. VIEWS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES ON THE WORK OF ESCWA:
SUCCESSSES AND AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT
(Item 6 of the agenda)

25. The Technical Committee included this item in its agenda in order to promote cooperation and coordination between ESCWA member countries, enhance the exchange of experiences and information to make use and promote successful experiences, improve services provided by ESCWA to member countries,

and implement activities coherent with the developmental needs of countries. While discussing this item, the Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq, Oman and Egypt presented their views on the work of ESCWA, with a focus on strengths and weaknesses as they made proposals on ways to improve the performance.

1. Views of the Syrian Arab Republic on the work of ESCWA

26. The delegate of the Syrian Arab Republic started his presentation with an overview of developmental challenges in his country, in particular economic growth, institutional reform and sustainability of natural resources. He clarified the need to coordinate policies, build cadres and institutional and individual capacity and strengthen coordination between ESCWA member countries in different areas such as energy, transport and trade. The delegate then reviewed the strengths and weaknesses in ESCWA work. He noted that ESCWA provides a platform for the exchange experience and knowledge between member countries and to deal flexibly with urgent issues. He also noted the limited funding of some activities and gaps in capacity, which hinders the optimal implementation of activities. In order to enhance cooperation and increase the usefulness of services provided by ESCWA, the delegate proposed establishing a network of technical experts in member countries communicating on a continual basis and forming a hub for the direct exchange of information and studies in different fields. He also stressed the need to focus on building cadres and capacity in most activities.

2. Views of Iraq on the work of ESCWA

27. The representative of Iraq identified developmental needs in her country, namely: the need to enhance economic and social development programmes; providing adequate expertise, in particular in the field of transition to market economies; and supporting Iraqi institutions providing work opportunities through small and medium-sized projects. The delegate called upon ESCWA to send consultants to Iraq and support the country in such vital issues as energy, employment and the advancement of women. She noted that ESCWA had achieved a number of successes in Iraq, specifically: supporting many projects in Iraqi ministries; assisting in building the capacity of a number of employees in the public sector in Iraq; and assisting in the implementation of national surveys. She urged ESCWA to: invite Iraq to participate in all the meetings of subsidiary organs; adopt the Iraqi Ministry of Planning as a focal point in charge of coordination and follow-up of all activities implemented by ESCWA in Iraq; increase the number of projects in Iraq in particular in the phase of developmental change that the country is currently experiencing; and appoint national coordinators in subsidiary organs supported by ESCWA to be in charge of following up the implementation of activities.

3. Views of Oman on the work of ESCWA

28. The representative of Oman started his presentation with an overview of the relationship between Oman and ESCWA, highlighting the most important phases in which ESCWA provided support to Oman through technical consultancies, national training sessions to build capacity and assistance to the Government in examining and analysing data related to income and family expenses. He then stated that the lack of sufficient information regarding the tasks and activities of ESCWA constituted the main obstacle hindering Oman from making the best use of the Commission activities. He mentioned a number of mechanisms that need to be established to make better use of ESCWA services, particularly technical cooperation, including the establishment of one focal point in a governmental body to coordinate with ESCWA and the different ministries or stakeholders. The presentation was concluded with a call to: establish specialized centres in the fields covered by the subprogrammes of the strategic framework of ESCWA; hold conventions and workshops on development, climate change and other issues of interest; organize training sessions for capacity-building in the field of statistics; devise policies that support economic and social development; and integrating gender sensitivity into policies and plans.

4. *Views of Egypt on the work of ESCWA*

29. At the beginning of the presentation, the representative of Egypt pointed to the need to focus on the fair distribution of economic growth returns, the proposed model of the developmental State and supporting medium, small and microprojects. He then reviewed the strengths of ESCWA, namely the early preparation of major international conferences to exchange views on the topics discussed, the coordination with international and regional organizations and member countries on the one hand, and with civil society organizations within the countries on the other hand, organizing workshops and training sessions and drafting relevant reports. He then made a number of proposals, calling for: the implementation of more technical support and capacity-building activities and increased budget resources for such activities; greater focus on youth and women employment, innovation and the activities of the Jordan Innovation Centre; and the expansion of international and regional cooperation in this context.

30. During the discussions that followed the presentations, the secretariat stressed the need to appoint the same delegate for the Technical Committee and for the Technical Cooperation Programme in order to prevent the duplication of work and the disparity in the level of information acquired on relevant issues. ESCWA also called upon member countries to reconsider the appointment of their representatives since only five out of fourteen countries have appointed the same delegate to both bodies. The three main activities undertaken by the Technical Cooperation Programme and the coordination mechanism adopted with United Nations agencies operating within each country were clarified. A delegate pointed to the need for the secretariat to facilitate the participation of all member country delegations in different ESCWA activities and to provide their representatives with timely visas and facilitation to ensure their participation. A participant also reaffirmed the need to enhance communication between United Nations organizations in order to use the available resources efficiently. ESCWA could, for example, provide consultancy services whereas the United Nations Development Programme could undertake the financing of projects based on the studies prepared by ESCWA. Participants also stressed the need to exert more effort to enhance the role of women and to focus these efforts on civil society.

E. DATE AND VENUE OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (Item 7 of the agenda)

31. Participants agreed to hold the seventh meeting of the Technical Committee at the United Nations House in Beirut in November 2012. The exact date will be determined after consultation between the secretariat and the Chairman of the Committee.

F. OTHER MATTERS (item 8 of the agenda)

32. No proposals were made under this item.

III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON ITS SIXTH MEETING (Item 9 of the agenda)

33. At the end of its sixth meeting, the Technical Committee adopted the proposed recommendations made during the discussions. The secretariat presented its observations on the recommendations with the provision that any suggested amendments thereto would be incorporated and included in a comprehensive report on the actions and results of the meeting.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

A. DATE AND VENUE OF THE MEETING

34. The Technical Committee held its sixth meeting at the United Nations House in Beirut on 1 and 2 December 2011. In accordance with the terms of reference of the Technical Committee that stipulate that the

chairmanship of the Committee shall coincide with the chairmanship of the ESCWA session, Jordan chaired this meeting in its capacity as Chair of the twenty-sixth session, held in Beirut from 17 to 20 May 2010.

B. OPENING

35. The Technical Committee held its sixth meeting on 1 December 2011 at the United Nations House in Beirut. Mr. Saleh Al-Kharabsheh, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Jordan, and Chair of the sixth meeting of the Technical Committee, expressed his gratitude for the efforts of ESCWA in order to achieve sustainable and inclusive development and the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Mr. Al-Kharabsheh commended the launch of the ESCWA Technology Centre in Jordan, and the recently issued ESCWA handbook on the Technical Cooperation Programme that explains its framework, content and the mechanisms that enable member countries to make the best use of the services it provides. He then noted the exceptional conditions of the region that have exacerbated challenges reflected in high unemployment and poverty rates, the lack of water resources, the rise of food prices and the cost of energy, most of which are included in the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015. He also stressed the need to exert more effort in order to advance development, highlighting the need to adopt mechanisms and policies at the national and international levels, redefine development priorities, concentrate on competitive sectors and focus on the sustainable management of natural resources. In addition, he reaffirmed the need to create an enabling environment to integrate all societal groups in the development process, foster the advancement of youth, activate the role of women in society and allocate sufficient budget resources for scientific research. He expressed the desire for the meeting to lead to a clear road map for the achievement of development goals.

36. Ms. Rima Khalaf, Under-Secretary-General, United Nations and Executive Secretary, ESCWA, welcomed the participants and stressed the role of the Technical Committee in determining the priorities of the work and activities of ESCWA, in line with the development needs of member countries. She then reviewed the items of the agenda, mainly the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015 that the secretariat is currently preparing, and stressed the main pillars of the framework namely: activating regional integration; promoting development in the region through the identification of available choices to enhance the competitiveness of its economies; supporting member countries in facing emerging challenges and issues; and building the institutional capacity of member countries to devise adequate policies. ESCWA is taking rapid steps to develop its partnerships with active regional and international organizations, acknowledging that developmental actions require concerted efforts, and to expand the membership of the Commission in order to include all Arab countries and grant the region greater momentum in international forums. She concluded her statement referring the twenty-seventh session of the Commission and inviting participants to present their proposals on the main theme of the session and the round tables to be held parallel to it.

C. PARTICIPANTS

37. The sixth meeting of the Technical Committee was attended by representatives of member countries. A list of participants is included in annex I of this report.

D. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

38. The Technical Committee adopted the agenda of its sixth meeting in the version set forth in document E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/L.1. The agenda in its adopted form was as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015.

4. Ongoing preparations for the twenty-seventh session of ESCWA.
 5. Progress achieved in the work of the secretariat: implementation of recommendations made by the Technical Committee at its fifth meeting.
 6. Views of member countries on the work of ESCWA: successes and areas of improvement.
 7. Date and venue of the seventh meeting of the Technical Committee.
 8. Other matters.
 9. Adoption of the report of the Technical Committee on its sixth meeting.
39. At the same session, the Committee also examined the proposed organization of work and adopted it as set forth in document E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/L.2

E. DOCUMENTS

40. Annex II of this report contains the documents examined by the Technical Committee at its sixth meeting.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Bahrain

Mr. Salah A' Rahman Al Ahmed
Deputy Head of Mission
Embassy of Kingdom of Bahrain
Syrian Arab Republic

Egypt

Mr. Khalid Emara
Deputy-Assistant Foreign Minister for
International Economic Relations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Mohamed Mamdouh
Third Secretary
Embassy of Egypt in Lebanon

Iraq

Mr. Ali Youssef Al-Shoukri
Minister for Planning and Development
Cooperation
Ministry of Planning and Development
Cooperation

Ms. Nawal Abbas Mahdi el-Baghdadi
Director General of the Human Development
Service
Ministry of Planning and Development
Cooperation

Mr. Mourtaja Jiad Abbas
Director, office of the Minister for Planning and
Development Cooperation

Mr. Nusseir Khairallah Ibrahim
Secretary, office of the Minister for Planning and
Development Cooperation
Ministry of Planning and Development
Cooperation

Jordan

Mr. Saleh el Kharabsheh
Secretary General
Ministry of Planning and International
Cooperation

Ms. Zeina Zeid Toukan
Director, International Cooperation
Ministry of Planning and International
Cooperation

Kuwait

Ms. Eman A. AL-Haddad
Head of International Organization Division
Inter Economic Cooperation Department
Ministry of Finance

Mr. Moubarak Hamed Al-Azimi
Accountant
Ministry of Finance

Lebanon

Mr. Abbas Mteirek
Head of Service of Treaties
Directorate of International Organizations,
Conferences and Cultural Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

Oman

Mr. Hamed Bin Jaber Bin Saud Al-Mahrooqi
Director General for Services Sector Development
Ministry of National Economy

Ms. Suad bent Mohammed Al-Fadhel
Director of the Technical Corporation Department
Ministry of National Economy

Palestine

Mr. Mahmoud Ataya
Acting General Director, Social Planning
Ministry of Planning and Administrative
Development

Qatar

Mr. Rached Abdallah Al sheikh Elkawari
Chargé d'affaires
Embassy of Qatar in Lebanon

Saudi Arabia

Mr. Bandar A. Al-Waily
Deputy Minister for Planning Affairs
Ministry of Economy and Planning

Mr. Abdullah Ali Al-Marwani
Director of Research and Studies Department
Supervisor of Regional Planning Department
Ministry of Economy and Planning

Mr. Majed ben Ramzi Attieh
First Secretary
Head of Economic Affairs
Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Lebanon

The Sudan

Mr. Adil Aziz Mohamed Mabrouk
Director General of Foreign Trade
Ministry of Foreign Trade

Mr. Idriss Soleiman Youssef
Ambassador of the Sudan in Lebanon

Syrian Arab Republic

Mr. Bashar Mohammad Al asaad
Economic Attaché
Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic in Lebanon

United Arab Emirates

Mr. Salem Saleh Al-Jaberi
Consul
Cultural Attaché
Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Lebanon

Mr. Mohammed Salem Alka'bi
Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Lebanon

Yemen

Ms. Amani Mohammed A. Zabara
Director of International Economic Studies
International Economic Studies and Forecasts
Sector
Ministry of Planning and International
Cooperation

Mr. Nabil Ali AbdulKader
Chargé d'affaires
Embassy of Yemen in Lebanon

Morocco

Mr. Abdellatif Erroja
Ministre plénipotentiaire
Second de L'Ambassadeur
Ambassade du Royaume du Maroc au Liban

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Symbol	Item	Title
E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/L.1	3	Provisional agenda and annotations
E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/L.2	3	Organization of work
E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/3	3	Proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015
E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/4	4	Ongoing preparations for the twenty-seventh session of ESCWA
E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/5	5	Progress achieved in the work of the secretariat: implementation of recommendations made by the Technical Committee at its fifth meeting
E/ESCWA/2011/C.6/6	6	Views of member countries on the work of ESCWA: successes and areas of improvement