



Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Preparatory Meeting of the Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries

Bangkok, 26 May 2015

Concept note

I. Introduction

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) will organize a one-day preparatory meeting of the Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries, to be held in Bangkok, Thailand on 26 May 2015.

II. Background

The Commission, in its sixty-ninth session, adopted Resolution 69/1 on a conference structure of the Commission for the inclusive and sustainable development of Asia and the Pacific, which decided that the sessions of the Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries and the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries would be held jointly for a maximum of one day during the senior officials segment and would have a status commensurate with the Committees of the Whole. The Resolution also decided that a one-day preparatory meeting of the Special Body will be held immediately before the beginning of the Commission session.

III. Objectives

The objective of the preparatory meeting is to review and discuss development issues pertinent to the Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries and to provide recommendations to inform the deliberations of the Special Body.

IV. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting:
 - a) Opening addresses;
 - b) Election of officers;
 - c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Review of development issues pertinent to Pacific Island Developing Countries:
 - a) The new programme of action for the small island developing States;

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- b) Other matters relevant to Pacific Island Developing Countries.
 3. Review of development issues pertinent to Asia-Pacific Landlocked Developing Countries:
 - a) The new programme of action for the landlocked developing countries;
 - b) Other matters relevant to Landlocked Developing Countries.
 4. Review of development issues pertinent to Asia-Pacific Least Developed Countries:
 - a) Midterm review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 in the Asia-Pacific region;
 - b) Other matters relevant to Asia-Pacific Least Developed Countries.
 5. Key challenges and prospects for Asia-Pacific countries with special needs
 6. Draft resolutions: Implications for Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries.
 7. Other matters.
 8. Summary of the chair

The draft provisional agenda should be reviewed by Asia-Pacific Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries. This could be best achieved through the ACPR or direct communication with these groups of countries.

V. Background and outcome document

Background documents

The background documents for the preparatory meeting will be Commission documents on:

- ESCAP support for implementation of Samoa Pathway for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
- ESCAP support for implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for the Landlocked Developing Countries;
- Outcome of the High-level Policy Dialogue on the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries;
- Summary of the Asia-Pacific countries with special needs development report, and
- Resolutions related to Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries, if any, should go through the normal consultation/draft resolution process as usual.

Outcome document

The secretariat will prepare an information note for the Commission with the summary of the Chair of the preparatory meeting of the Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries.

VI. Participants

The participants of the preparatory meeting would include senior officials of ESCAP members and associate members, OHRLLS, UN secretariat, agencies, funds and programmes, and other relevant international and regional organizations.
