

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL**

Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/2011/C.5/5
17 February 2011
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Technical Committee
Fifth meeting
Beirut, 6-7 April 2011

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2012-2013**Summary**

The proposed programme of work of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) for the biennium 2012-2013 was prepared on the basis of programme 18, economic and social development in Western Asia, of the United Nations proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013. It presents the proposed outputs expected to be delivered by each of the seven subprogrammes under programme 18, as well as the strategy, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement, performance measures and external factors pertaining to each subprogramme.

This document does not provide information on resource requirements, as only the Secretary-General can issue such information in his proposed United Nations programme budget, which will be reviewed by relevant United Nations intergovernmental bodies before being approved by the General Assembly.

To ensure that ESCWA programme of work, as required by the United Nations, is demand driven and responds to the needs of member countries, the secretariat is presenting it to the Technical Committee for consideration. The Committee is invited to review this document with a view to endorsing it.

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Introduction

1. The proposed programme of work of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) for the biennium 2012-2013 was prepared on the basis of programme 18, economic and social development in Western Asia, of the United Nations proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013,¹ as modified by the United Nations Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fiftieth session (New York, 7 June – 2 July 2010). The revised draft strategic framework of ESCWA for the biennium 2012-2013 was endorsed earlier by ESCWA at its twenty-sixth session (Beirut, 17-20 May 2010).²

2. This document reproduces the overall orientation of programme 18 as set out in the strategic framework, before presenting the following details for each of the seven subprogrammes under programme 18: the logical framework comprising the objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures; the strategy; the external factors; and the outputs expected to be delivered by the subprogramme during the biennium 2012-2013.

3. While the Secretary-General of the United Nations has not yet issued his proposed United Nations programme budget, this proposed programme of work does not provide information on resource requirements. The resource requirements for programme 18 are usually presented in section 21 of the United Nations programme budget which comprises 35 sections. The draft programme budget, which includes the proposed programme of work and the required financial resources for all the sections, will be reviewed by the United Nations Programme Planning and Budget Division and by the Secretary-General. Once a proposed programme budget is issued by the Secretary-General, it will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee for Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), the Committee for Programme and Coordination, and the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, before it is reviewed and adopted by the General Assembly.

4. The proposed programme of work, as submitted to the Technical Committee at its fifth meeting, may undergo some modifications during the above-mentioned review process. Any amendments which will be introduced to the proposed programme budget by the intergovernmental review bodies at the United Nations will be communicated to ESCWA member countries through their respective national focal points.

5. In proposing the outputs for the seven subprogrammes, the secretariat has given due consideration to the following:

- (a) Emerging global and regional issues and mandates;
- (b) The outcome of the twenty-sixth session of ESCWA and the recommendations made by its subsidiary bodies at their respective sessions;
- (c) Regional monitoring and reporting requirements of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
- (d) Concluded agreements and strategic partnerships at the global and regional levels;
- (e) Linkages between the normative and analytical work and the operational work of ESCWA;
- (f) Good practice and lessons learned that were identified through the programme performance assessment for the biennium 2008-2009 and the programme budget exercise for the biennium 2010-2011.

¹ United Nations General Assembly, *Proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013, Programme 18, Economic and Social Development in Western Asia*, A/65/6(Prog.18). Available at: <http://documents.un.org>.

² ESCWA, *Revised draft strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013*, E/ESCWA/26/7. Available at: <http://documents.un.org>.

6. The structure of ESCWA secretariat remains the same, with the exception of the Centre for Women which is responsible for the implementation of subprogramme 6, and the Emerging and Conflict Related Issues Section (ECRI) which is responsible for the implementation of subprogramme 7. At its twenty-sixth session, ESCWA adopted two resolutions proposing the upgrade of the Centre and the Section to the level of division. The two proposals will be considered by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session to be held in 2011.

7. To ensure that the ESCWA programme of work, as required by the United Nations, is demand driven and responds to the needs of member countries, the secretariat is presenting it to the Technical Committee for consideration. The Committee is invited to review this document with a view to endorsing it.

Overall orientation

18.1 The overall orientation of the programme is to foster comprehensive, equitable, integrated and sustainable development and economic and social cooperation in the region, and to maintain and strengthen economic relations between the member countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and with other countries of the world. ESCWA is responsible for the implementation of the programme.

18.2 Policy direction for the programme is provided in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1818 (LV) 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 capacities to formulate policies, monitor the progress made and measure its impact and prepare regional reports. In addition, in its resolution 269 (XXIV), 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 Group, foster partnerships and cooperation with those organizations.

18.3 Together with the other regional commissions, ESCWA will continue to pursue work aimed at promoting regional and subregional economic integration, as well as implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and support for sustainable development. As the regional arms of the United Nations, the regional commissions will use their convening power to continue to advance multilateral dialogue, support regional networks and the sharing of knowledge, and will strive to further intra- and interregional cooperation among themselves, as well as with other regional and subregional entities. The Commission will continue to engage with the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs as a key global body for ensuring coherence on common thematic areas among entities of the United Nations Secretariat working in the social and economic sectors.

18.4 In the biennium 2012-2013, ESCWA will pursue its programme objectives by promoting economic and social integration at both the subregional and regional levels, and fostering solidarity in the international political arena and global economy. Regional integration will be scaled up to cover the Arab region through continued strategic partnership with the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for North Africa, and with regional and subregional organizations such as the League of Arab States and the Gulf Cooperation Council. The programme comprises seven interdependent subprogrammes that focus on four regional priority areas and three cross-cutting issues, namely:

- (a) Stimulating sustainable management of natural resources, with emphasis on water, energy and the productive sectors, while incorporating climate change responses to sectoral strategies and plans;
- (b) Promoting integrated social policies;
- (c) Stimulating sustainable economic development based on higher productivity and competitiveness and through regional integration and cooperation in a globalizing world;
- (d) Accelerating the development, adaptation, diffusion and use of advanced technology, in particular information and communications technology;
- (e) Enhancing statistical capacity development;
- (f) Promoting gender mainstreaming, the advancement of women and their effective participation and involvement;
- (g) Promoting peacebuilding and mitigating the impact of conflict, its root causes and spillover effects on sustainable development.

18.5 The current global financial crisis has had a negative impact on economic performance in the region, resulting in plunging financial markets and real estate asset prices, the collapse of commodity prices and a decline in export earnings. The resulting contraction in economic activity has led to mounting unemployment. Consequently, the need for proactive employment policies to absorb the growing labour force in the region, particularly aimed at young people and women, is more pressing than ever.

18.6 The development and implementation of integrated social policies are yet to be given the same level of consideration as economic policies, despite development experience showing that economic growth, on its own, does not lead to equitable and inclusive development, social justice and social stability. In this regard, particular attention should be paid to both the equitable provision of public services and the integration of key social groups – including women and youth – into the process of development. In addition, greater emphasis should be given to enhancing good governance to ensure that effective processes and mechanisms are established to facilitate transparent and participatory policy formulation and implementation.

18.7 The region is characterized by large gas and oil reserves and production, food dependency and scarce water resources. The water shortage challenge is amplified by factors such as rapid population growth and the overexploitation of available water resources, and will be further exacerbated by climate change, which is expected to increase the proportion of areas affected by droughts, producing significant negative effects on agricultural productivity and other productive sectors which may undermine national and regional development agendas. As such, ESCWA will continue to support member countries in building capacities to sustainably manage water and energy resources, in line with the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation), by promoting integrated water resources management practices to facilitate progress in the implementation of the targets on water and sanitation of Goal 7 of the Millennium Development Goals. Advocating for improved energy access in poor areas, and the efficient use of energy sources (cleaner fuels, renewable energy resources, etc.) will remain a key priority. ESCWA will also provide technical advice to incorporate climate change adaptation and mitigation responses into sectoral strategies and plans, by preparing regional assessments of the impact of climate change on water resources, advancing the role of the energy sector in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and supporting member countries to utilize available international resources for supporting relevant projects. Furthermore, ESCWA will continue to strengthen capacity in member countries to improve sustainable rural livelihoods, and increase the productivity and competitiveness of small and medium-scale enterprises.

18.8 ESCWA will pursue an integrated approach to development with a view to balancing economic growth and social equity in the region while paying special consideration to the least developed and conflict-stricken countries. To this end, efforts will be made towards supporting the design and implementation of national policies to promote an equitable and inclusive process of development, enhancing regional capacity to collectively address crucial existing and emerging challenges, through the promotion of regional integration initiatives, advances in intraregional trade and investment, the development of an integrated transport and communications infrastructure, and the facilitation of trade and transport.

18.9 The marginalization of women and their limited access to information and resources hinder the development process in Arab countries. ESCWA will support efforts to enhance gender equality and the advancement of women through: (a) sharing of documentation and exchange of best practices within the region; (b) capacity-building of national machineries for women to better uphold their role and responsibilities; (c) providing technical expertise in gender mainstreaming; and (d) implementing and monitoring international conventions and conferences.

18.10 ESCWA will strive to promote the development of knowledge-based economies in the region through analysis and normative activities, to build local capacity in information and communications technology and to narrow the digital divide. This will be coupled with the formulation of coordinated strategies and action plans for the development of the information and communications technology sector within the framework of the World Summit on the Information Society.

18.11 Developing statistical capacity continues to be essential in order to enhance the ability of countries in the region to generate timely, reliable, comparable and gender-disaggregated statistics for informed policymaking and programme development, and for tracking progress realized in achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

18.12 Security and stability are the minimum conditions for sustainable human development and the full realization of human potential. However, continued instability, conflict and occupation and their spillover effects are a driving force of the development deficit in ESCWA member countries. In partnership with its member countries, other United Nations system offices and other multilateral and regional institutions, ESCWA activities will aim to minimize the ramifications of long-running instability by assisting member countries in formulating conflict prevention, reconciliation and revitalization policies within development programmes that are resilient to continuous crisis. ESCWA will also assist member countries to formulate and implement policies and programmes that address the economic and social spillover effects generated by conflict and/or occupation as well as the impact of emerging global challenges on the most vulnerable ESCWA member countries, in particular the least developed countries. ESCWA will build on its comparative advantage and established in-house expertise in identifying and mainstreaming good governance models catering to the specificities of ESCWA member countries, and modernizing State structures related to peacebuilding efforts with the goal of achieving stability and sustainable development in the region.

18.13 ESCWA will continue to carry out analytical and normative work, supplemented by the provision of technical cooperation support in line with the articulated needs of ESCWA 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 of the organization 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 practices to enhance learning and accountability.

18.14 The regional support provided by ESCWA should contribute towards:

- (a) Increased national capacity to devise and apply comprehensive, equitable economic and social policies and programmes, and to deal with transboundary issues;
- (b) Improved coordination of the efforts and resources of United Nations bodies with a view to providing joint responses in tackling multifaceted problems that the countries of the region face;
- (c) Enhancing the work of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions in reviewing and appraising the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits;
- (d) Increased knowledge-sharing and South-South cooperation between the countries of the region and with countries in other regions, thereby furthering the promotion of intra- and interregional collaboration;
- (e) Enhancing the development capacity and utilization of the knowledge capital in the region.

18.15 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 increased 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 strives 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.

SUBPROGRAMME 1

**INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Objective of the Organization: To achieve integrated sustainable management of natural resources in the ESCWA region, with emphasis on water, energy and the production sectors, while incorporating climate change responses into sectoral strategies and plans

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced technical, human and institutional capacities of member countries to develop and implement national, subregional and regional policies, strategies and action plans for the sustainable management of energy and water resources in line with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of positive responses, in follow-up surveys received from member countries and regional stakeholders, expressing satisfaction with ESCWA expert meetings and advisory and capacity-building services targeted at achieving their sustainable development goals</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 5 responses Estimate for 2010-2011: 7 responses Target for 2012-2013: 12 responses</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of measures designed and implemented by member countries, with ESCWA support, for the integrated sustainable management of natural resources, in line with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 26 measures Estimate for 2010-2011: 30 measures Target for 2012-2013: 36 measures</p>
(b) Enhanced capacity of Governments and other public and private stakeholders to incorporate climate change responses into sectoral strategies and plans, and to stimulate financial and technical supports for the inclusion of climate change issues into plans and strategies	<p>(b) (i) Increased number of countries implementing sustainable energy plans and initiatives including projects formulated or implemented with ESCWA support and financed through the clean development mechanism and other international financing mechanisms</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 0 member countries Estimate for 2010-2011: 0 countries Target for 2012-2013: 2 countries</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of partners contributing to the preparation of ESCWA regional assessments and measures for climate change adaptation</p>

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(c) Strengthened capacity in member countries to develop and apply best practices and plans for improving sustainable agriculture and rural livelihood and increasing the productivity and competitiveness of small and medium-scale enterprises, in support of achieving the Millennium Development Goals	<i>Performance measures:</i>
	2008-2009: 0 partners Estimate for 2010-2011: 4 partners Target for 2012-2013: 6 partners
	(c) (i) Increased number of measures taken by small and medium-scale enterprises, with ESCWA assistance, to adopt environmentally sound technologies and their possible applications for sustainable rural livelihoods
	<i>Performance measures:</i>
	2008-2009: 2 measures Estimate for 2010-2011: 6 measures Target for 2012-2013: 10 measures
	(ii) Increased number of plans developed and best practices applied by member countries, based on ESCWA initiatives and support, for enhancing access to basic energy, water and sanitation services
	<i>Performance measures:</i>
	2008-2009: 2 plans/best practices Estimate for 2010-2011: 4 plans/best practices Target for 2012-2013: 7 plans/best practices

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18.16 The responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the Sustainable Development and Productivity Division. The subprogramme will concentrate on enhancing knowledge and facilitating the formulation, adoption and implementation of integrated sustainable development strategies and policies in the light of the relevant global mandates arising from the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Millennium Development Goals, in particular Goal 1 (eradicate extreme poverty and hunger) and Goal 7 (ensure environmental sustainability), as well as the outcomes of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its thirteenth session, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 15 December 2007 and at its fifteenth session, held in Copenhagen, from 7 to 18 December 2009.

18.17 The subprogramme will continue to:

(a) Advocate and promote sustainable production and consumption patterns of energy and water resources, including improved access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation for a wider section of the region's population;

(b) Serve as a forum for promoting policy dialogue as a means to enhance synergy, among the countries in the region, on sustainable development priority issues including climate change adaptation and mitigation;

(c) Facilitate cooperation among its member countries on the management of shared water resources and the development of energy networks;

(d) Increase awareness of the possible impacts of climate change on water resources, and the precautionary measures and means needed to integrate climate change responses into sectoral strategies and plans;

(e) Support national and regional capacity-building, especially in the fields of integrated water resources management, energy efficiency, renewable energy applications and cleaner fossil fuels;

(f) Facilitate regional coordination and preparation for the implementation of regional and global commitments on sustainable development, in particular on the thematic areas to be addressed by the Commission on Sustainable Development.

18.18 In support of achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the subprogramme will also promote sustainable rural livelihood approaches and increase the productivity and competitiveness of small and medium-scale enterprises.

18.19 This will be achieved by undertaking quality research and analytical work; disseminating best practices; building capacity and rendering advisory services on priority sustainable development issues; promoting intra- and interregional cooperation on sustainable development and issues relating to climate change, through partnerships with other regional commissions, international mechanisms for financing actions relating to climate change, and regional organizations, in particular the League of Arab States, GCC, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for West Asia, the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization; and strengthening ESCWA regional mechanisms for coordination on energy and water as regional forums for advancing sustainable development issues such as those identified in UN-Water and UN-Energy, and the UNEP Environmental Management Group.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 1 is expected to achieve its expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) member countries are willing to adopt and apply the sustainable development policies advocated by world summits and global and regional conferences; (b) there are no significant shortfalls in extrabudgetary funding; (c) political stability is improved, thereby allowing for a better cooperative environment among member countries in the region, as well as a more effective implementation of technical cooperation; and (d) developed countries will fulfill their commitments to support the formulation and implementation of adaptation and mitigation measures by developing countries, including ESCWA member countries, through technology transfer and financial support.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2012-2013, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 1:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *ESCWA*

Parliamentary documentation:

a. Report of the Committee on Energy on its ninth session (2012, expected accomplishment (a));

- b. Report of the Committee on Water Resources on its ninth session (2012, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Committee on Energy*

- a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the ninth session of the Committee on Energy (4 meetings) (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Report on projects formulated or implemented through the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) in ESCWA member countries (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
 - ii. Report on the adoption and application of renewable energy technologies in ESCWA member countries (2012, expected accomplishment (b)).

(iii) *Committee on Water Resources*

- a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the tenth session of the Committee on Water Resources (6 meetings) (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
- c. Report on climate change socio-economic and environmental vulnerability of the water sector in ESCWA member countries (2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iv) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Six expert group meetings on the following topics:

- a. Best practice in sustainable consumption and production in the ESCWA region (Energy efficiency) (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Shared water resources management: avenues for regional cooperation (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Promotion of carbon capture and storage technologies in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Regional cooperation for climate change adaptation (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- e. Green value chains for improved livelihoods in the Arab region (2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- f. Approaches for monitoring transition into green economy in the Arab region (2012, expected accomplishment (c)).

(v) *Assistance to intergovernmental bodies and/or United Nations representatives/rapporteurs under their established mandates*

- a. Substantive support and follow-up on selected resolutions adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Electricity (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));

- b. Substantive support to the executive secretariat of the Joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region (JCEDAR) and the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Substantive support and follow-up on selected resolutions of the Arab Ministerial Water Council (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(b) *Other substantive activities (regular budget)*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

ESCWA Water Development Report No. 5: Issues in Sustainable Water Resources Management and Water Services (2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. Regional Cooperation for Climate Change Adaptation: Mechanisms and Measures for Incorporating Regional Priorities into Sectoral Strategies and Plans (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Carbon Capture and Storage Applications in the ESCWA Region (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. The Role of Renewable Energy in Promoting Climate Change Mitigation measures in the ESCWA Region (2012, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- d. Monitoring Transition into a Green Economy in the Arab Region (2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- e. Green Value Chains for Improved Livelihoods in the Arab Region (2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iii) *Technical material*

- a. Manual for Enhancing the Technical Capacity of National Teams in ESCWA Member Countries on Climate Change Negotiations (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Fact sheet on mapping and monitoring regional initiatives on climate change adaptation and mitigation (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Development and maintenance of the web pages on water, environment, energy, and agriculture and enterprise development on ESCWA website (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Fact sheet on green technologies in the energy sector for climate change mitigation in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- e. Fact sheet on the impact of climate change on the energy sector in the ESCWA region (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- f. Working paper series (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));

- g. Fact sheet on the state of the productive sectors in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- h. Technical material on MDG 7 targets and region-specific water supply and sanitation indicators (2012, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iv) *Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits*

- a. Promotional material for the World Environment Day (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Promotional material for the World Water Day (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Promotional material for the celebration of the Arab Day for Energy Efficiency (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Pamphlet and CD on green economy initiatives, success stories and lessons learned in the Arab region (2012, expected accomplishment (c));
- e. Promotional material for the World Day to Combat Desertification (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- f. Promotional material on energy issues in the region (Energy efficiency in the agriculture sector) (2012, expected accomplishment (a)).

(v) *Contribution to inter-agency meetings and joint outputs*

- a. Substantive contribution to the twentieth (CSD-20) and twenty-first (CSD-21) sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the thematic cluster of issues for the two-year cycle 2012-2013: forests, biodiversity, biotechnology, tourism and mountains (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Substantive contribution to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Substantive input to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighteenth (COP-18) and nineteenth (COP-19) sessions (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Substantive input to regional and global forums on energy and environment issues (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- e. Substantive input to regional and global forums on water issues (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- f. Substantive support to the United Nations coordination bodies, and regional and global forums on water, energy, productive sectors and environment issues (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- g. Substantive support to the High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- h. Substantive contribution on MDG 7 targets and region-specific water supply and sanitation indicators to ESCWA flagship publication *Millennium Development Goals: The Day After 2015* (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));

- i. Substantive contribution entitled “Cooperation in Managing Shared Water Resources” to ESCWA flagship publication Regional Integration (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- j. Substantive contribution entitled “Institutional Capacity to Manage Natural Resources” to a joint ESCWA publication entitled “Arab Countries 2025” (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*

(i) *Advisory services*

- a. Advisory missions to member countries upon their request on issues related to sustainable development through the common country assessment (CCA) process and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) (2 missions) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Advisory services to member countries upon their request on energy management practices for sustainable development (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Field projects*

- a. Promoting energy efficiency in electricity distribution in selected ESCWA member countries (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Supporting networking on integrated water resources management (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Supporting ESCWA member countries in the field of water supply and sanitation (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- d. Rural electrification by wind energy in selected ESCWA member countries (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- e. Capacity-Building on Climate Change Mitigation for Poverty Alleviation in Western Asia (Development Account) (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- f. Strengthening national capacities in the ESCWA region on developing green production sectors (Development Account) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- g. Developing climate change adaptation capacity of the Arab countries by applying Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) tools in key sectors (Development Account) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- h. Assessing the socio-economic vulnerability to climate change of the water resources sector in the Arab region (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- i. Developing cleaner production capacity of small and medium-sized enterprises in the ESCWA region (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(d) *Conference services and administration oversight*

Discretionary self-assessment of subprogramme 1 (2012, related to all expected accomplishments).

SUBPROGRAMME 2

INTEGRATED SOCIAL POLICIES

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

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened national capacity to develop a rights-based social policy that promotes social integration, including for vulnerable groups	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of national institutions that generate knowledge and information on vulnerability and vulnerable groups, with ESCWA assistance</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 4 national institutions Estimate for 2010-2011: 6 national institutions Target for 2012-2013: 8 national institutions</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of evidence-based policies and programmes on social integration initiated by member countries, with ESCWA assistance</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: N/A Target for 2012-2013: 2 policies and programmes</p>
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to address the integration of various sociodemographic groups, in particular youth, the elderly and labour migrants, in the process of development	<p>(b) (i) Total number of countries responding, with ESCWA assistance, to the World Programme of Action on Youth</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 3 countries Estimate for 2010-2011: 8 countries Target for 2012-2013: 6 countries</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of measures and policy provisions adopted by member countries to integrate ageing and labour mobility priorities in development plans and programmes</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 6 measures/policy provisions Estimate for 2010-2011: 8 measures/policy provisions Target for 2012-2013: 10 measures/policy provisions</p>

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(c) Enhanced partnership between Governments and civil society organizations in designing, implementing and monitoring development policies, including social policies, and related programmes and projects	<p>(c) (i) Increased number of advisory processes, networks and agreements on the approaches to participatory social development, local development, and related capacity-building programmes, supported by ESCWA</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 8 advisory processes/networks/agreements Estimate for 2010-2011: 11 advisory processes/networks/agreements Target for 2012-2013: 14 advisory processes/networks/agreements</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of instances in which civil society organizations and other institutions are consulted in the process of design, implementation and monitoring of policies by Governments, with ESCWA assistance</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 2 instances Estimate for 2010-2011: 6 instances Target for 2012-2013: 10 instances</p>

STRATEGY

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

18.21 During the biennium 2012-2013, particular attention will be paid to promoting: (a) an integrated approach to social policy; (b) social integration at the national and local levels; (c) youth development; and (d) participatory development.

18.22 Social development requires the creation of an enabling environment for people to develop their full potential, expand their development choices and lead productive lives according to their needs and interests. Fundamental to enlarging these choices is building human capabilities: the range of things that people can do or be in life. The most basic capabilities for human development are to lead long and healthy lives, be knowledgeable, have access to opportunities and resources needed for a decent standard of living and be able to participate in the life of the community. Without these, many choices are simply not available, and many opportunities in life remain inaccessible.

18.23 Countries that have achieved higher social development dividends and equitable social well-being for all ultimately achieved those targets by creating synergy between economic and social objectives in a way that social development goals became an integral part of national development strategies. The integrated social policy framework rests on three pillars: a clear policy vision; a shared consensus; and coordinated implementation. The policy vision entails both a conviction in the need for social equity and the political will to implement integrated social policy. A shared consensus requires institutional space and mechanisms to promote the dialogue and checks and balances that are vital to ensuring citizens' participation in equitable

development. The coordinated provision of social services involves a comprehensive approach to how people are involved with, receive and benefit from social services. In this regard, civil society organizations can play a critical role in terms of monitoring the impact of public and social policies on different social groups, including vulnerable groups.

18.24 Having documented and disseminated knowledge about social development approaches, tools and institutional mechanisms, the subprogramme will seek to build the capacity of member countries to mainstream social equity concerns in their public policymaking, including identifying mechanisms to finance social development. Particular efforts will be made to support member countries in formulating, implementing and monitoring social policies and strategies designed to ensure a more equitable process of human development. The subprogramme will also continue to assist member countries in the implementation of internationally agreed plans of action and recommendations, including the Millennium Development Goals.

18.25 In order to achieve the expected accomplishments, the subprogramme will undertake both normative and technical cooperation activities. The normative activities will include research and analysis on social and demographic 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. 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 practices and lessons learned in the field of social development, and for increased interaction between Western Asia and other regions of the world.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 2 is expected to achieve its expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) member countries remain committed to achieving the internationally agreed development goals and continue to support activities that promote comprehensive social development; (b) extrabudgetary financial resources are commensurate with planned activities; and (c) there is a minimum level of political stability and a secure working environment.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2012-2013, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 2:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *ESCWA*

Parliamentary documentation: Report of the Committee on Social Development on its eighth session (2012, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c)).

(ii) *Committee on Social Development*

a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the ninth session of the Committee on Social Development (6 meetings) (2013, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c)).

b. Parliamentary documentation:

i. Social integration policies in the ESCWA region (2012, expected accomplishment (a));

- ii. Planning for the aged in the ESCWA region within the context of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- iii. Good practices in adopting ESCWA participatory approach in selected member countries (2012, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iii) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Seven expert group meetings on the following topics:

- a. Policy implications of age structural changes in the ESCWA region (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Arab forum on the role of the civil society institutions in the provision of social services (RB/XB) (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Social development participation mechanisms in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishment (c)) (RB/XB);
- d. Beyond 2015: Focus on MDG 1 targets and region-specific eradication of extreme poverty and hunger indicators (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)) (RB/XB);

(b) *Other substantive activities (regular budget)*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

- a. Population and Development Report (Issue No. 6): Socio-economic Implications of Age-structural Transformation in the ESCWA Region (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Integrated Social Policy (Report V): Roles and Responsibilities of Public, Private and Civil Actors in Social Policy (2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. Comparative Analysis of Regional and International Experiences with Institutional Change Favouring Civil Society Participation in Public Policy Processes (2012, expected accomplishment (c));
- b. Challenges Facing Urban Vulnerable Groups in the ESCWA Region (2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iii) *Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits*

- a. Pamphlet on the themes of the fiftieth (CSD-50) session of the United Nations Commission on Social Development (1 in 2012 and 1 in 2013, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c));
- b. Pamphlet to the forty-sixth session of the United Nations Commission on Population and Development on the work of ESCWA in the area of population and development (1 in 2012 and 1 in 2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Pamphlet on the work of ESCWA in the area of social integration (2012, expected accomplishment (a));

- d. Social Development Bulletins on:
 - i. Strategies to Promote Social Integration (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
 - ii. Impact of Democracy on Public Accountability (2012, expected accomplishment (c));
 - iii. Youth Employability in the ESCWA Region: Challenges and Opportunities (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
 - iv. Urban Development Challenges in the ESCWA Region (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- e. Information kit on effective indicators for measuring public-civic participation (2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iv) *Technical material*

- a. Paper on the role of the private sector in the provision of social services (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Social Policy Briefs on:
 - i. Mainstreaming ageing into development policies (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
 - ii. Labour policies in the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. E-seminars on:
 - i. Democracy and participation (2012, expected accomplishment (c));
 - ii. Participation and conflict prevention (2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- d. Report on social development participation mechanisms in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- e. E-discussions on the outline of the Integrated Social Policy (Report V): Roles and Responsibilities of Public, Private and Civil Actors in Social Policy (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- f. Demographic profiles of the Arab countries (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- g. Maintenance and update of the Social Development Division web page on ESCWA website (1 in 2012 and 1 in 2013, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c));
- h. Maintenance and update of the Population and Information Network (POPIN) website (1 in 2012 and 1 in 2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- i. Maintenance and update of the ESCWA portal on Participatory Development in Western Asia (1 in 2012 and 1 in 2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- j. Working paper series (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c)).

(v) *Contribution to inter-agency meetings and joint outputs*

Substantive contribution to the ESCWA flagship publication *Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region* (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (regular budget and extrabudgetary)*(i) *Advisory services*

At the request of member countries, provide guidance and promote greater awareness on participatory development and local development mechanisms and instruments (RB/XB) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(ii) *Training courses, seminars and workshops*

Workshop on pro-poor development approaches in the ESCWA region (RB/XB) (2012, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iii) *Field projects*

- a. Strengthening social protection in Asia and the Pacific (Development Account) (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Strengthening capacities of policymakers in the ESCWA region to formulate national youth policies and plans of action: responding to the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) (Development Account) (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Regional initiative on youth employment (RB/XB) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Operationalizing ESCWA participatory approach in public policy processes in member countries (RB/XB) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(e) *Conference services and administration oversight*

Discretionary self-assessment of subprogramme 2 (2012, related to all expected accomplishments).

SUBPROGRAMME 3

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

Objective of the Organization: To achieve economic development and accelerate the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals through appropriate macroeconomic policies, adequate financing for development and the promotion of regional integration including transport and trade facilitation

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries to formulate and implement policies and measures recommended in the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, taking into consideration the consequences of the global economic and financial crisis	(a) (i) Increased number of policies and measures adopted by member countries to implement the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, taking into consideration the consequences of the global economic and financial crisis, with ESCWA assistance, through training, advisory services and technical assistance

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
	<p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 15 policies/measures Estimate for 2010-2011: 18 policies/measures Target for 2012-2013: 21 policies/measures</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of policies and agreements adopted by member countries for promoting regional integration, with ESCWA assistance, through training, advisory services and technical assistance</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: N/A Target for 2012-2013: 2 policies/agreements</p>
<p>(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to continue the implementation of the international transport agreements concluded within ESCWA for the enhancement of regional integration, as well as the other various components of the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq including institutional frameworks, transport and trade facilitation and road traffic safety</p>	<p>(b) (i) Increased number of actions taken by member countries to accelerate and enhance regional integration through the implementation of the United Nations international transport agreements concluded within ESCWA on road, railway and maritime transport</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 31 actions Estimate for 2010-2011: 32 actions Target for 2012-2013: 34 actions</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of policy measures taken by member countries, based on ESCWA recommendations, to facilitate intraregional transport and trade among member countries including the implementation of the Single Window Initiative, and the establishment and activation of the national transport and trade facilitation committees</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 9 policy measures Estimate for 2010-2011: 10 policy measures Target for 2012-2013: 11 policy measures</p> <p>(iii) Increased number of measures taken by member countries, based on ESCWA recommendations, to improve road traffic safety</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 6 measures Estimate for 2010-2011: 7 measures Target for 2012-2013: 8 measures</p>

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(c) Enhanced capacity of member countries to negotiate and implement subregional, regional and multilateral trade agreements designed to increase international trade	<p>(c) (i) Increased number of requests for technical assistance, including advisory services in trade policy and negotiations, to which ESCWA is able to respond to positively</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 3 requests Estimate for 2010-2011: 4 requests Target for 2012-2013: 5 requests</p> <p>(ii) Increased percentage of follow-up survey responses where member countries acknowledged that they benefited from ESCWA analytical outputs and capacity-building services in trade policy and trade negotiations</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: 20 per cent increase in number of positive responses Target for 2012-2013: 30 per cent increase in number of positive responses</p>
(d) Enhanced capacity of member countries in the region in designing and implementing suitable macroeconomic policies and strategies for sustainable economic growth, employment creation and poverty alleviation	<p>(d) (i) Increased percentage of stakeholders in the region that, through follow-up surveys, acknowledge benefits from ESCWA analytical outputs in the area of macroeconomic policies and development strategies in designing and implementing suitable macroeconomic policies and development strategies for sustainable economic growth, employment creation and poverty alleviation</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 50 per cent increase in number of positive responses Estimate for 2010-2011: 55 per cent increase in number of positive responses Target for 2012-2013: 60 per cent increase in number of positive responses</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of macroeconomic policies and development strategies adopted by member countries based on ESCWA analytical work in these areas</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: N/A Target for 2012-2013: 2 policies/strategies</p>

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(e) Strengthened capacity of policymakers in member countries and other stakeholders to design and implement policies and instruments to achieve diversified economies and create effective national and regional value chains	<p>(e) (i) Increased number of policy measures taken by member countries, based on ESCWA recommendations, to diversify their national economy and create effective value chains</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: N/A Target for 2012-2013: 2 policy measures</p> <p>Increased number of requests for technical assistance, including advisory services, in economic policy and strategic planning, that ESCWA is able to respond to positively</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: N/A Target for 2012-2013: 2 requests</p>

STRATEGY

18.26 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 and ESCWA resolutions provide the legislative authority for the subprogramme.

18.27 To enhance the capacity of member countries in accelerating the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, the subprogramme will continue to lead the coordination and production of a joint regional LAS-United Nations report on the Millennium Development Goals in the Arab region. The report will be policy-oriented and will suggest practical policy recommendations for member countries that should assist them in accelerating the attainment of the Goals by 2015.

18.28 To achieve its expected accomplishment in the financing for development area, the subprogramme will assist member countries to analyse and evaluate world and regional financial development and propose regional strategies and coordinated regional responses. Emphasis will be placed on the development of strategic partnerships with financial institutions and development funds to accelerate the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration. The subprogramme will also undertake normative and analytical studies to assist policymakers in member countries to deal with issues related to financial markets development, foreign direct investment, workers' remittances, debt management, official development assistance, regional integration and globalization.

18.29 The subprogramme will focus on enhancing regional integration through building the capacities of member countries in accelerating the implementation of the United Nations international transport agreements concluded within ESCWA over the past 35 years for road, railway and maritime transport. Work will continue on the implementation of the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq including transport and trade facilitation for enhancing regional integration and South-South cooperation. Special attention will be given to the implementation of the Single Window Initiative and the continued establishment and activation of the national transport and trade facilitation committees and related regional

coordination. The subprogramme will also serve as a regional platform to raise awareness about road traffic safety issues.

18.30 The subprogramme will continue to work to enhance international trade policy formulation for servicing productive capacity-building and utilization of domestic and regional markets, and intra- and interregional trade in line with regional economic agreements such as the Greater Arab Free Trade Area. It will continue to enhance the capacities of member countries in the subregional, regional and multilateral trade agreements designed to increase their international and intraregional trade and their integration into the multilateral trading system.

18.31 In the area of economic analysis, the subprogramme adopts a two-track strategy. The first track consists of:

(a) A continuous assessment of the region's macroeconomic performances for timely identification and analysis of socially inclusive macroeconomic policy issues;

(b) Economic research with modelling and forecasting techniques and normative approaches, including human rights-based approaches to development that are relevant to the regional context;

(c) Putting analytical emphasis on regional priorities such as poverty alleviation, socially inclusive macroeconomic policies consistent with long-term development goals, and employment creation, in particular among young people.

18.32 The second track will be implemented in parallel with the first, by utilizing analytical and normative outputs of the former in order to enhance technical awareness, capacity and networking on development and socially inclusive macroeconomic issues and policies in the region.

18.33 The analytical outputs of the subprogramme will be utilized in order to enhance technical awareness, capacity and networking on policies and strategies pertaining to achieving the objectives of the subprogramme. This will be carried out through organizing effective intergovernmental group meetings, expert group meetings, seminars, workshops, technical advisory services and the preparation of studies and reports. An increased interaction with global and regional stakeholders, and governmental and non-governmental bodies, will be sought to promote regional cooperation in the above-mentioned areas.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 3 is expected to achieve its expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) member countries are willing to increase their subregional and regional cooperation and integration; (b) there are no significant shortfalls in funding; (c) the political situation in the region does not further deteriorate; (d) up-to-date and reliable economic and transport statistics are made available on youth unemployment and the MDGs; and (e) regional stakeholders have access to information technology facilities.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2012-2013, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 3:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) ESCWA

Parliamentary documentation:

a. Report of the Committee on Transport on its twelfth session (2012, expected accomplishment (b));

- b. Report of the Committee on Transport on its thirteenth session (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Report of the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development in the countries of the ESCWA Region on its seventh session (2012, expected accomplishments (a) and (c));
- d. Report on policy options for key macro-economic issues (2012, expected accomplishment (d));
- e. Report on the progress towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals in the Arab region (2012, expected accomplishment (d)).

(ii) *Committee on Transport*

- a. Substantive servicing of meetings of the thirteenth and fourteenth sessions of the Committee on Transport (6 each in 2012 and 2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Follow-up report on the implementation of the United Nations international transport conventions concluded within the ESCWA region (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
 - ii. Report on the national transport and trade facilitation committees in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishment (b)).

(iii) *Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development in the Countries of the ESCWA Region*

- a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the eighth session of the Technical Committee on Trade and Financing for Development (4 meetings) (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (c)).
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Report on the implementation of the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
 - ii. Report on trade policy formulation servicing productive capacity (2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iv) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Nine expert group meetings on the following topics:

- a. Assessment of the progress made by ESCWA member countries in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development and the preparation for the 2013 International Conference on Financing for Development (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. High priority issues of financing for development: regional cooperation (2013, expected accomplishment (a));

- c. Transport and trade facilitation in the ESCWA region (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Trade and development in the ESCWA region: South-South cooperation (2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- e. Regional economic situation and policy assessment including diversification (2 meetings) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (d));
- f. Trends, challenges and emerging issues in the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (2 meetings) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (d));
- g. Regional integration: an economic perspective (2013, expected accomplishments (a), (b), (c) and (d));
- h. Global economy, regional integration and national trade policies (2012, expected accomplishment (c));
- i. Diversified economic policy formulation and its positive impact in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishment (e)).

(b) *Other substantive activities (regular budget)*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

- a. Progress report on the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Regional Millennium Development Goals Report (2013, expected accomplishment (d));
- c. Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region (2 issues) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (d)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. High Priority Issues of Financing for Development: Post-financial Crisis, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Debt and Development (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Foreign Direct Investment Report (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Transport and Trade Facilitation: Behind Border Facilitation – Procedures and Possible Actions (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Trade and Development in the ESCWA Region: Regional Cooperation – WTO and Market Access (2012, expected accomplishment (c));
- e. Enhancing Fiscal Capacity to Attain the Millennium Development Goals (2012, expected accomplishment (d));
- f. Regional Cooperation and the Millennium Development Goals (2012, expected accomplishments (a) and (d));
- g. Proposed Economic Diversification Policies and Strategies in the ESCWA Region (2013, expected accomplishment (e)).

(iii) *Technical material*

- a. Working paper series on: financing for development; trade; the Millennium Development Goals; and economic development (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a), (b), (c) and (d));
- b. Regional Economic Forecasts (2 issues) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (d));
- c. Maintenance and update of ESCWA homepage on economic development and integration (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a), (b), (c) and (d));
- d. Establishing and updating a web page on Arab Millennium Development Goals (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (d)).

(iv) *Booklets, pamphlets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits*

- a. Booklet on trade facilitation initiatives in the region;
- b. Information kit on the status of implementation of trade agreements in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- c. Fact sheet on trade indices and indicators in the ESCWA region (2012, expected accomplishment (c)).

(v) *Contribution to inter-agency meetings and joint outputs*

- a. Regional input to the annual publication of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) *World Economic Situation and Prospects* (2 contributions) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (d));
- b. Contribution to the annual report *Aid for Trade Statistics* published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- c. Organizing a meeting for the Thematic Working Group on Arab Millennium Development Goals (ESCWA, United Nations agencies and League of Arab States) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (d)).

(vi) *Special events*

- a. Launching of the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (d));
- b. Launching of the Regional Millennium Development Goals Report (2013, expected accomplishment (d)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*(i) *Training courses, seminars and workshops*

Training workshops on bilateral investment agreements, FDI outflows, double taxation avoidance, and debt management for government officials in the ESCWA region (Development Account) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Field projects*

- a. Strengthening the capacity to negotiate bilateral investment treaties in the ESCWA region (Development Account) (2010-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Facilitating effective integration of developing countries in the global economy through Aid for Trade schemes (Development Account) (2011-2012, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(d) *Conference services and administration oversight*

Discretionary self-assessment of subprogramme 3 (2012, related to all expected accomplishments).

SUBPROGRAMME 4

**INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY
FOR REGIONAL INTEGRATION**

Objective of the Organization: To narrow the digital divide and build an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society and knowledge-based economy in the ESCWA region in accordance with the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and with internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Perceptible progress towards the development of knowledge-based economies in ESCWA member countries, substantiated by the formulation and implementation of pertinent policies and strategies	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of member countries formulating and/or reformulating information and communications technology policies and implementation strategies, with the direct or indirect assistance of ESCWA, that emphasize the development of knowledge-based economies</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i> 2008-2009: 2 member countries Estimate for 2010-2011: 4 countries Target for 2012-2013: 8 countries</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of member countries collecting reliable and gender-sensitive data, and developing indicators aimed at measuring the impact of ICT on socio-economic development, with ESCWA assistance</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i> 2008-2009: 0 member countries Estimate for 2010-2011: 2 countries Target for 2012-2013: 4 countries</p> <p>(iii) Increased number of regional initiatives for the development of enabling environments towards a knowledge society achieved through partnerships and information and communications technology applications, with ESCWA assistance</p>

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(b) Enhanced capacity towards competitiveness of the information and communications technology sector in the region on the production and service delivery levels with special focus on partnerships, research, development and innovation	<p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 2 regional initiatives Estimate for 2010-2011: 4 regional initiatives Target for 2012-2013: 6 regional initiatives</p>
	<p>(b) (i) Increased number of national and regional action plans implemented by ESCWA member countries for the development of a productive and competitive information and communications technology sector and e-services, with ESCWA assistance</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 4 action plans Estimate for 2010-2011: 6 action plans Target for 2012-2013: 9 action plans</p>
	<p>(ii) Increased number of national and regional initiatives and partnerships aimed at improving research, development and innovation in the information and communications technology sector, with ESCWA assistance</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 1 initiative/partnership Estimate for 2010-2011: 3 initiatives/partnerships Target for 2012-2013: 6 initiatives/partnerships</p>
	<p>(c) Enhanced national and regional capacity in science, technology and innovation (STI) to achieve sustainable development</p> <p>(c) (i) Increased number of member countries effectively using technology transfer for socio-economic development</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 2 member countries Estimate for 2010-2011: 6 countries Target for 2012-2013: 9 countries</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of member countries adopting national STI policies and strategies</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 5 member countries Estimate for 2010-2011: 7 countries Target for 2012-2013: 9 countries</p>

STRATEGY

18.34 The responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the Information and Communications Technology Division. Global changes are taking place at the economic, social and cultural levels, with information and knowledge playing a major role in the move towards the information 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. Consequently, the move towards the information society constitutes a real challenge to developing countries, particularly in view of the expanding digital divide with developed countries, thus rendering them increasingly vulnerable to reductions in productivity and economic capacity. This leads, in turn, to unemployment, poverty, corruption and marginalization. Greater efforts must be exerted in order to increase literacy and education levels and tap human resources and talent, especially among women and the growing youth population. With continued monitoring of activities pertaining to the World Summit on the Information Society Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and the efforts made 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 information and communications technology sectors.

18.35 The subprogramme, in its effort to meet the needs of ESCWA member countries, will carry out analytical studies, convene meetings and provide advisory services to support that endeavour, act as a catalyst for changes in policymaking in member countries and promote the adoption of a more comprehensive set of information and communications technology measurements and indicators that will help strategic decision-making to identify priority areas of policy action and measure the impact of information and communications technology on socio-economic development. It will assess and revise plans of action based on feedback from ESCWA 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 information and communications technology sector in the region towards building a knowledge-based economy.

18.36 In order to enhance national capacity, with a special focus on human resources development, and take advantage of the digital opportunities pertaining to socio-economic development in the region, pilot field projects will be implemented in selected ESCWA member countries. Field projects will incorporate a social dimension through the active involvement of local communities, with a focus on employment of young people and the empowerment of women, in order to build a people-centred information society.

18.37 The subprogramme will continue to place special emphasis on promoting an enabling environment and harnessing the development of thematic applications of information and communications technology, including e-services and digital content in Arabic, with the aim of building on information and communications technology as an agent of change to empower citizens and improve the quality of life.

18.38 Building on the accomplishments of the previous biennium in activating partnerships for implementing information and communications technology projects, the subprogramme will enhance regional collaboration and partnerships in activities that will contribute to efforts aimed at harnessing research and development in science and technology, particularly information and communications technology, for socio-economic development. To that end, it will promote the establishment of mechanisms aimed at exchanging information and sharing knowledge among regional players and with counterparts outside the region. The subprogramme will also seek close cooperation and coordination with other ESCWA subprogrammes and with international and regional organizations including regional commissions to promote knowledge-based economies, sustainable development, measurement of the impact of information

and communications technology and the empowerment of women and young people in the information society in order to achieve more effective results.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 4 is expected to achieve its expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) extrabudgetary resources are made available to the Commission in a timely manner for its operational activities; and (b) the political stability is sufficient to facilitate a cooperative environment among member countries in the region as well as effective implementation of technical cooperation.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2012-2013, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 4:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *ESCWA*

Parliamentary documentation:

- a. Report on the ESCWA Technology Center (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Report on the progress achieved by member countries and efforts exerted by ESCWA in the implementation of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (2012, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(ii) *Ad hoc expert groups*

- a. Sixth meeting of the Consultative Committee on Scientific and Technological Development and Technological Innovation (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. EGM on the role of ICT in socio-economic development (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. EGM on regional research and development in the ICT sector (2012, expected accomplishment (b)).

(iii) *Assistance to intergovernmental bodies and/or United Nations representatives/rapporteurs under their established mandates*

Substantive support and assistance to the League of Arab States and its organizations on ICT policies and strategies, Internet governance, and Arabic Domain Names (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(b) *Other substantive activities (regular budget)*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

- a. Review of Information and Communications Technology for Development in Western Asia (Issues No.17, 18, 19 and 20) (2 in 2012 and 2 in 2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- b. Regional Profile of the Information Society in Western Asia, 2013 (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. Regional competitiveness of the ICT sector in ESCWA member countries (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Impact of selected e-services on socio-economic development (2012, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iii) *Contribution to inter-agency meetings and joint outputs*

- a. "ICT for regional integration" (contribution to ESCWA flagship publication on regional integration) (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. "Information economy" (contribution to ESCWA flagship publication *Arab Countries 2025* (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. "ICT impact" (contribution to ESCWA flagship publication *Millennium Development Goals: The Day After 2015*) (2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iv) *Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits*

Brochure on the Information and Communications Technology Division at ESCWA; brochure on the ESCWA Technology Centre; leaflet on the digital Arabic content industry; leaflet on ISPER; leaflet on the regional profile of the Information Society in the ESCWA region (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(v) *Technical material*

- a. Maintenance of the ESCWA home page on information and communications technology (1 in 2012 and 1 in 2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- b. Development and refinement of Arabic terminology in the field of ICT (1 in 2012 and 1 in 2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- c. Maintenance and update of the Information Society portal (1 in 2012 and 1 in 2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- d. Impact of ICT on Arab youth (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- e. Status of the Digital Arabic Content industry in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- f. Progress in the implementation of ICT policies and strategies in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- g. National Profiles of the Information Society in Western Asia, 2013 (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*

Field projects

- a. Academy of ICT essentials for government officials in the ESCWA region (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Support to the ESCWA Technology Centre (in-kind contribution) (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c)).

(d) *Conference services and administration and oversight*

Discretionary self-assessment of subprogramme 4 (2013, related to all expected accomplishments).

SUBPROGRAMME 5

STATISTICS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING

Objective of the Organization: To improve the production, harmonization and dissemination of quality demographic, social, economic and environmental indicators, including indicators on societal development and progress towards development goals, gender-disaggregated data and gender-sensitive indicators, in order to facilitate evidence-based policymaking by national and international decision makers and civil society

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Progress in improving the national institutional framework for official statistics, particularly in conflict-stricken countries and those that are less statistically developed	(a) (i) Increased number of ESCWA member countries expressing their commitment to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics <i>Performance measures:</i> 2008-2009: 6 member countries Estimate for 2010-2011: 10 countries Target for 2012-2013: 14 countries
(b) Enhanced capacity of national statistical offices to produce and disseminate relevant, timely, reliable and comparable social, economic and environmental statistics and indicators, including gender-disaggregated data, in compliance with global international standards and recommendations, particularly in conflict-stricken countries and those that are less statistically developed	(ii) Increased number of measures taken by ESCWA member countries to improve their national institutional framework for official statistics, with ESCWA assistance <i>Performance measures:</i> 2008-2009: 4 measures Estimate for 2010-2011: 8 measures Target for 2012-2013: 12 measures
(b) Increased capacity of national statistical offices to produce and disseminate relevant, timely, reliable and comparable social, economic and environmental statistics and indicators, including gender-disaggregated data, in compliance with global international standards and recommendations, particularly in conflict-stricken countries and those that are less statistically developed	(b) Increased number of ESCWA member countries adopting new or revised international statistical standards (the System of National Accounts (SNA) and foundational socio-economic classifications), with particular emphasis on conflict-stricken countries and those that are less statistically developed, with ESCWA assistance <i>Performance measures:</i> 2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: 8 countries Target for 2012-2013: 12 countries
(c) Increased Government capacity to produce high-quality data on key sociodemographic, economic and environmental indicators, including indicators on development (societal development and progress towards the Millennium Development Goals), gender-disaggregated data and gender-sensitive indicators, as well as to enhance the capacity of decision makers and civil society to use this data	(c) (i) Increased number of member countries that provide at least 60 per cent of core indicators for the ESCWA statistical database <i>Performance measures:</i> 2008-2009: 7 member countries Estimate for 2010-2011: 10 countries Target for 2012-2013: 14 countries

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
	(ii) Increased number of database queries to online ESCWA statistical databases <i>Performance measures:</i> 2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: 200 queries Target for 2012-2013: 300 queries

STRATEGY

18.39 The responsibility for implementing this subprogramme lies with the Statistics Division. There is a continued need to align the production and dissemination of statistics in the region with the emerging needs of society and policymakers, improving the relevance and comparability of statistics at the regional level in social, economic and cross-cutting issues. Addressing those challenges will strengthen the role of statistics in evidence-based policymaking and in monitoring and evaluating the impact of development policies.

18.40 During the biennium 2012-2013, the subprogramme will make efforts to: (a) act as a centre of excellence and a forum for exchange of views in statistical issues for ESCWA member countries; (b) concentrate on 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 ESCWA member countries.

18.41 Special attention will be paid to indicators on development for monitoring progress towards the Millennium Development Goals as well as other indicators on quality of life, well-being and societal progress, guided by the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome regarding the monitoring of the internationally agreed development goals. The subprogramme will increase its collaboration with other ESCWA subprogrammes with the aim of improving the quality of the secretariat's analytical outputs and products. The subprogramme will also collaborate with other regions, whenever this may bring benefits to ESCWA member countries. The subprogramme will also aim at enlarging the geographic scope of statistical cooperation to Arab countries in general, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa, the League of Arab States and its subsidiaries, as well as with other partners.

18.42 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 importance of 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.

18.43 The subprogramme will continue to upgrade the knowledge and skills of the national statistical offices in order to increase the availability, frequency and timeliness of core socio-economic statistics, and adopt new and revised economic and social international classifications and standards. The capacity-building activities of the subprogramme will focus on: (a) economic statistics (short-term statistics, the System of National Accounts 2008, producer and consumer price indices, statistics on external trade in goods and services, energy and industry statistics); (b) social and demographic statistics (population and vital statistics including information on migration, household budget surveys, poverty, employment/labour, health, culture and education); and (c) cross-cutting statistical areas (gender statistics, the environment and sustainable development and issues related to societal development). The strategy is guided by Economic and Social

Council resolution 2006/6 and ESCWA resolutions 247 (XXII), 276 (XXIV) and 287 (XXV) on strengthening statistical capacities in the ESCWA region, and resolution 286 (XXV) on gender statistics.

18.44 The subprogramme will also aim at improving harmonization of official statistics in priority subject matter areas. To this end the subprogramme will aim at producing brief implementation guidelines and supplements to global standards, comprising regionally agreed harmonized definitions, concepts and methods. The subprogramme will also work towards the improved coordination of official statistics in the region by promoting data sharing and joint questionnaires among international and regional statistical organizations. This is supported by ESCWA resolution 283 (XXV) on compliance with international standards for enhancing national statistical systems.

18.45 The ultimate goal of the subprogramme is to improve the quality of statistics made available to policymakers, researchers and the public at large, while reducing the statistical burden on respondents, particularly national statistical offices in the ESCWA region. To this end, the subprogramme will promote the development and harmonization of statistical databases, following the international recommendations concerning statistical data and metadata dissemination and exchange, incorporating free and broad access for the public. With a focus towards electronic dissemination, the subprogramme will nevertheless continue the production of printed statistical publications, as deemed necessary. The feasibility of various statistical products will be periodically evaluated.

18.46 To enhance coherence across the United Nations system and coordination among international agencies, the subprogramme will work in close cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and other relevant United Nations entities, development banks and funds, regional and subregional organizations, and other statistical partners and networks.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 5 will achieve the expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) there are no significant shortfalls in regular and extrabudgetary resources for statistical capacity-building; (b) the regional and international organizations active in official statistics in the region willingly cooperate with ESCWA; (c) ESCWA Statistical Committee assumes its steering role in setting priorities and providing a strategic direction; and (d) there is a sufficient political stability and a secure working environment to facilitate cooperation among member countries and enable the effective implementation of technical cooperation.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2012-2013, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 5:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *ESCWA*

Parliamentary documentation: Report of the Statistical Committee on its tenth session (2012, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Statistical Committee*

- a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the tenth session of the Statistical Committee (4 meetings) (2012, expected accomplishment (a)).
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Report on progress in demographic and social statistics, including gender statistics and development indicators (2012, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
 - ii. Report on progress in economic statistics, including energy and environment statistics (2012, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(iii) *Bureau of the Statistical Committee*

Substantive servicing of two meetings of the Bureau of the Statistical Committee (2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iv) *Ad hoc expert groups:*

Six expert group meetings on:

- a. National Accounts and Economic Statistics (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Environment and energy statistics for sustainable development (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Demographic statistics (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Gender statistics (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- e. Working group of the Statistical Committee (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- f. Data quality (2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c)).

(b) *Other substantive activities (regular budget)*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

- a. National Accounts Studies of the ESCWA Region (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c));
- b. External Trade Bulletin of the ESCWA Region (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c));
- c. Compendium of Environment Statistics in the ESCWA Region (2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c));
- d. Bulletin of Industrial Statistics for the Arab Countries (2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c));
- e. Arab Society: Compendium of Social Indicators (2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c));
- f. Bulletin on Population and Vital Statistics (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c));
- g. Statistical Abstract of the ESCWA Region (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. Study on selected methodological issues in economic statistics (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Study on demographic statistics (2013, expected accomplishment (b)).

(iii) *Contribution to inter-agency meetings and joint outputs*

- a. “Statistics on regional integration” (contribution to ESCWA flagship publication *Regional Integration* (2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c));
- b. “Statistics on Arab Countries” (contribution to ESCWA flagship publication *Arab Countries 2025*) (2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c));
- c. “Monitoring the Millennium Development Goals” (statistical contribution to ESCWA flagship publication *Millennium Development Goals: The Day After 2015*) (2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c)).

(iv) *Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits*

- a. Statistics Newsletter (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. ESCWA member country statistical profiles (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c));
- c. Gender in figures in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(v) *Technical material*

- a. Maintenance and update of the statistics homepage on ESCWA website (including virtual library, best practices, standards and classification, meetings and documentation) (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c));
- b. Maintenance and update of e-glossary on statistical terms (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Maintenance and update of ESCWA Statistical Information System (ESIS) and online data sets (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*(i) *Advisory services*

Provide support in the following areas: improving the production, analysis and dissemination of social and demographic, economic, and environmental statistics; adopting new or revised international statistical standards (System of National Accounts, etc.) and related foundational classifications; and improving national institutional frameworks for official statistics (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b)).

(ii) *Field projects*

- a. Global Implementation and Outreach for the System of National Accounts (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Strengthening statistical capacity of ESCWA member countries in energy statistics and energy balance (Development Account) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Strengthening the use of statistical information in support of progress towards internationally agreed development goals in the ESCWA region (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. International Comparison Programme (ICP) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(d) *Conference services and administration and oversight*

Discretionary self-assessment of subprogramme 5 (2013, related to all expected accomplishments).

SUBPROGRAMME 6

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Objective of the Organization: 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 of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced knowledge and capacity of national machineries for women to implement and monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and be effective agents in promoting a positive role for women in the socio-economic and political development of their societies	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of initiatives (strategies, policies and programmes) for the advancement of women, designed by national machineries for women with ESCWA assistance, are adopted and implemented in their respective countries</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 10 initiatives Estimate for 2010-2011: 16 initiatives Target for 2012-2013: 20 initiatives</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of national machineries for women showing improved reporting on periodical reports submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: N/A Target for 2012-2013: 3 national machineries showing improved reporting</p>
(b) Strengthened capacity of member countries to mainstream gender in national policies, plans, statistics and programmes	<p>(b) (i) Increased number of initiatives undertaken by Governments, with support from ESCWA, to mainstream gender in selected pilot ministries and their respective policy papers, structure, programmes and disseminated information</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 15 initiatives Estimate for 2010-2011: 16 initiatives Target for 2012-2013: 20 initiatives</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of gender-disaggregated data sets, including gender analysis publications, developed by member countries with support from ESCWA</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: N/A Target for 2012-2013: 3 publications</p>

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(c) Strengthened capacity of member countries in fighting gender-based violence	<p>(c) (i) Increased number of initiatives by member countries to raise awareness for gender-based violence in the society</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: 0 initiatives Target for 2012-2013: 3 initiatives</p> <p>(ii) Increase in the number of plans, programmes and strategies that include measures to fight gender-based violence produced with support from ESCWA</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: 0 initiatives Target for 2012-2013: 2 initiatives</p>

STRATEGY

18.47 The responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the ESCWA Centre for Women. The subprogramme will build on the experience gained in previous bienniums and continue to advocate for the advancement of women.

18.48 As the recent reports from member countries for the midterm review of the Beijing Platform for Action (Beijing+15) have shown, many improvements were seen in the past 5 years in relation to the status of women in the fields of socio-economic and political development. This is especially true in the areas of education, access to health and legal reform. Nonetheless, representation of women in the economic sphere and in decision-making positions remains one of the lowest in the world. The problem is exacerbated given the limited amount of reliable gender-disaggregated data and information available. At the same time, the need to develop region-specific gender indicators has also arisen among the member countries to ensure the availability of a comprehensive and effective measurement of the region's development in the field of gender equity.

18.49 Most member countries in the ESCWA region have ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and have been periodically reporting on the progress made on implementation in the fields of legislation and actual access to rights. Furthermore, some countries are actively lifting some of the reservations that were made to the Convention. Nevertheless, there is a need to widely disseminate the Convention among States where it has already been ratified and promote it among other member countries who are still considering ratification. As has been shown by reports made to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women as well as the concluding comments and recommendations made by the Committee, efforts are still needed to ensure that member countries are fulfilling their international obligations and commitments and producing quality periodical reports.

18.50 Similarly, most countries have engaged over the past years in gender mainstreaming activities at the national level and in line ministries. In fact, many of the member countries have developed initiatives for national mainstreaming strategies. Nevertheless, work in this area remains limited to familiar terrain and has not been generalized to all fields and contexts and hence has a weak impact on existing structures.

18.51 Although in most of the member countries a national body for women has been established with a strong mandate, the limited financial resources and lack of staff with adequate training have hindered the active engagement of national machineries for women at the policy or programmatic levels. Furthermore, the limited exchange of experience among existing machineries has resulted in the repetition of past efforts without analysing the lessons learned from them.

18.52 Finally, the inability to engage civil society to take an active role in the policy dialogue has been one of the key hindering factors affecting the positive involvement of all stakeholders in promoting the equal status and equity agenda.

18.53 The expected accomplishments will be achieved by servicing and providing assistance to member countries through: (a) needs assessments; (b) documentation and dissemination of knowledge; (c) the provision of advocacy tools and research methodology; (d) the sharing of knowledge and experience; (e) ensuring that socio-economic development issues related to the advancement and empowerment of women are adequately addressed in the intergovernmental debate; (f) assisting member countries in the development and implementation of national policies and international conventions; and (g) providing training and capacity-building activities on gender issues.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 6 is expected to achieve its expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) member countries remain committed to implementing international conventions and internationally agreed development goals; (b) there is a political will to enhance the role of national machineries for the advancement of women and strengthen dialogue with civil society; and (c) the political situation is stable enough to permit the developments.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2012-2013, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 6:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *ESCWA*

Parliamentary documentation: Report of the Committee on Women on its fifth session (2012, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Committee on Women*

- a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the sixth session of the Committee on Women (4 meetings) (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Review of the status of gender mainstreaming in government institutions in ESCWA member countries (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
 - ii. Thematic key development issues concerning the advancement of women: the use of education and ICT to empower women in the ESCWA region (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(iii) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Five expert group meetings on the following topics:

- a. Innovative approaches for promoting women political representation in the ESCWA region (in coordination with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), United Nations Development Programme/Sub-regional Resource Facility for Arab States (UNDP-SURF), and UN-Women) (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Assessment of the status of gender mainstreaming in government institutions in selected ESCWA member countries (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Women empowerment policies in the ESCWA region: a life cycle approach (in cooperation with the League of Arab States, Arab Women Organization (AWO) and Center for Arab Women Training and Research (CAWTAR)) (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Addressing the barriers hindering women economic participation in the ESCWA region (in coordination with ILO and UN-Women) (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- e. Trafficking of women and children in selected ESCWA member countries: a regional perspective (in coordination with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)) (2012, expected accomplishment (a)).

(b) *Other substantive activities (regular budget)*(i) *Recurrent publications*

- a. Women Empowerment Policies in the ESCWA Region: A Life Cycle Approach (joint study by ESCWA, the League of Arab States, AWO and CAWTAR) (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Arab Women and Development Series: Assessment of Gender Mainstreaming in Government Institutions in Selected ESCWA Member Countries (2013, expected accomplishment (b)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. Innovative Approaches for Promoting Women Political Representation in the ESCWA Region (in coordination with ECA, UNDP-SURF, and UN-Women) (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Addressing the Barriers Hindering Women Economic Participation in the ESCWA Region (in coordination with ILO and UN-Women) (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Trafficking of Women and Children in Selected ESCWA Member Countries: A Regional Perspective (in coordination with UNODC) (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (c));
- d. Success Stories and Best Practices in Multi-sectoral Partnership to Combat Gender-based Violence in Selected ESCWA Member Countries (in coordination with Oxfam, GB) (2012, expected accomplishments (a) and (c)).

(iii) *Contribution to inter-agency meetings and joint outputs*

Contribution by ECW to the following ESCWA flagship publications: *Regional Integration; Millennium Development Goals: The Day After 2015*; and *Arab Countries 2025* (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(iv) *Technical material*

Economic and social situation of the Palestinian women (2012, expected accomplishments (a) and (c)).

(v) *Electronic issuances*

a. Maintenance and update of ECW homepage on ESCWA website (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));

(b) Gender Newsletter (quarterly) (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (b) and (c)).

(vi) *Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits*

a. Information kit for the sixth session of the Committee on Women (2013, expected accomplishment (a));

b. Poster for the sixth session of the Committee on Women (2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(vii) *Special events*

Launching of *Women Empowerment Policies in the ESCWA Region: A Life Cycle Approach* (a joint study by ESCWA, the League of Arab States, AWO and CAWTAR) (2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*

(i) *Advisory services*

Provide support to member countries at their request in gender mainstreaming and follow-up on the implementation of Beijing Platform for Action, and international conventions and resolutions on gender equality and the empowerment of women (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(ii) *Training courses, seminars and workshops*

a. Training workshop on strengthening legislative frameworks to address all forms of violence against women (the second subregional workshop) (2012, expected accomplishment (a));

b. Training workshop for members of the national machineries for the advancement of women on the formulation of national action plans to support the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security (2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iii) *Filed projects*

Strengthening Mechanisms for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (Italian Government/Trust Fund for Human Resources and Capacity Building) (in cooperation with the United Nations Department of Social Affairs (UN-DESA)) (2009-2013, expected accomplishment (b)).

(d) *Conference services and administration oversight*

External evaluation of subprogramme 6 (2012, related to all expected accomplishments).

SUBPROGRAMME 7

CONFLICT MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Objective of the Organization: To mitigate the impact of conflict and its spillover effects on development in the ESCWA region

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries to identify, formulate, adopt and implement recovery and peacebuilding policies, strategies and mechanisms geared towards the structural prevention of conflict, mitigating its impact on development, addressing its regional spillover effects and the ramifications of emerging global issues	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of policies, strategies and mechanisms identified and/or adopted by member countries and civil society dedicated to the structural prevention of conflict and mitigating its impact on development, with ESCWA assistance</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 2 policies/strategies/mechanisms Estimate for 2010-2011: 3 policies/strategies/mechanisms Target for 2012-2013: 4 policies/strategies/mechanisms</p> <p>(a) (ii) Increased percentage of civil servants and civil society representatives acknowledging, through follow-up survey responses, having benefited from ESCWA analytical activities and/or outputs dedicated to the formulation of national and regional peacebuilding and conflict mitigation policies, strategies and mechanisms that promote development</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: N/A Estimate for 2010-2011: N/A Target for 2012-2013: 55 per cent increase in number of civil servants/civil society representatives acknowledging benefit</p>
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to apply good governance models and best practices that strengthen public institutions to pre-empt conflict, achieve reconciliation, peace and attain development goals	<p>(b) Increased number of modern tools and best practices introduced by national stakeholders, in partnership with ESCWA, to strengthen and modernize institutions in conflict affected countries, with the prospect of enhancing service delivery and mitigating the impact of conflict and its spillover effects</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 2 modern tools/best practices Estimate for 2010-2011: 3 modern tools/best practices Target for 2012-2013: 4 modern tools/best practices</p>

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(c) Established intergovernmental body on emerging issues and development under crisis	<p>(c) (i) Increased number of member countries attending meetings of the task force on addressing emerging issues and development under crisis</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 0 Estimate for 2010-2011: 0 Target for 2012-2013: 7 countries</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of member countries endorsing the terms of reference of the intergovernmental body on emerging issues and development under crisis</p> <p><i>Performance measures:</i></p> <p>2008-2009: 0 Estimate for 2010-2011: 0 Target for 2012-2013: 8 countries</p>

STRATEGY

18.54 The responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the Section for Emerging and Conflict-related Issues. The strategy is a response to the relentless struggle in the ESCWA region with the ramifications of continuous instability and resulting development deficits. It departs from the premise that conflict prevention, peacebuilding and development are inseparable and mutually reinforcing, and must be led by a strong public sector in which good governance practices are applied. Significantly, conflict mitigation measures targeting crisis-afflicted countries will inevitably reduce conflict across the region, and its repercussions.

18.55 As such, this strategy derives from the following: (a) the 2005 World Summit Outcome which stresses the interlinkages of security, development and human rights; (b) the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict (A/63/881-S/2009/304), which highlights capacity development and national ownership as a central element of peacebuilding and conflict prevention, and calls for the support of regional organizations to enhance crisis management capacities; (c) the timely attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals; (d) the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which states that development and poverty eradication depend on good governance within each country; and (e) the resolutions of Ministerial Sessions in which ESCWA member countries have called upon the Secretariat to mitigate the impact of conflict, occupation and instability on development, to strengthen the role of ESCWA in addressing the impact of conflict and instability within the context of social and economic development, and to enhance regional cooperation under unstable conditions.

18.56 The first pillar of the subprogramme will focus on building the capacity for development of ESCWA member countries, in particular, countries affected by conflict, to implement peacebuilding policies, strategies and mechanisms that are geared towards the structural prevention of conflict or potential sources of conflict, mitigating its impact on development and addressing its regional spillover effects, as well as the ramifications of emerging global issues. The second pillar of the strategy is to strengthen the capacity of member countries to apply good governance models and best practices that enhance the capacity of public institutions to improve service delivery, to pre-empt conflict and to achieve reconciliation and peace and attain development goals.

18.57 The subprogramme will achieve these objectives by focusing its activities on three areas:

(a) Promoting revitalization/recovery policies and strategies, inclusive dialogue, reintegration and reconciliation as part of peacebuilding and conflict-mitigation policies and mechanisms;

(b) Developing the conflict management capacity of State institutions and strengthening the abilities of countries affected by conflict to provide basic services by restoring and strengthening core Government functions through public sector modernization;

(c) Addressing the ramifications of spillover effects generated by conflict and the impact of emerging global challenges on the most vulnerable ESCWA member countries, in particular the least developed countries.

18.58 In order to achieve the above, the subprogramme will examine suitable recovery and peacebuilding strategies and policies to attain sustainable development, as well as human and institutional development, particularly in conflict and post-conflict countries. These interventions will be based on advisory missions, field-oriented situation analysis, desk research and in-depth studies on the root causes of conflict, its impact on development as well as the spillover effects generated. Throughout its normative work, the subprogramme will solicit substantive inputs, including the challenges and the strategic development priorities of member countries and civil society representatives, that are catalysts for peacebuilding. From its normative work, the subprogramme will also work towards developing policies, strategies and mechanisms that attain greater development interactions through greater regional integration. Regional integration policies will be geared towards reducing tensions and preventing conflict or mitigating its impact so as to facilitate attainment of national development goals.

18.59 The subprogramme will also focus on tailoring policies and other interventions that will mainstream good governance practices within the public sector, thereby enhancing its efficiency and service delivery capacity, consequently strengthening its ability to lead and sustain peacebuilding efforts in conflict and post-conflict countries.

18.60 Furthermore, the subprogramme will work closely with member countries, the United Nations system (United Nations country teams of countries affected by conflict in particular), the League of Arab States and other multilateral and/or regional organizations as well as civil society to develop conflict-sensitive policy recommendations that will enhance recovery and peacebuilding efforts in the region.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 7 will achieve its expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) member countries are fully committed to and supportive of the effective implementation of the recommendations made by the Secretary General on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict, and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, and to a timely and adequate realization of ESCWA resolutions concerning the mitigation of the impact of conflict on development and regional cooperation under unstable conditions; (b) there is continued and adequate access to beneficiaries, in particular decision makers, in spite of political tensions and conflict in crisis-afflicted member countries; and (c) adequate human and financial resources are made available for supporting conflict affected member countries, particularly those under occupation and the least developed ones.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2012-2013, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 7:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *Economic and Social Council*

Parliamentary documentation: 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 of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (2 reports) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *ESCWA*

Parliamentary documentation:

- a. Report on the impact of conflict or political crisis on the socio-economic development in the ESCWA region (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Report on the Intergovernmental Committee on Emerging Issues and Development in Conflict Settings (2013, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iii) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Eight expert group meetings on the following topics:

- a. Local governance as a peacebuilding tool in conflict settings (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Mainstreaming development and aid effectiveness in national strategies in conflict affected countries (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Interrelationship between conflict, youth employability and reconciliation (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Governance of property rights in conflict (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- e. Establishing the Intergovernmental Committee on Emerging Issues and Development in Conflict Settings (consultative meeting) (2012, expected accomplishment (c));
- f. Enhancing local public service delivery in crisis (brainstorming session) (2012, expected accomplishment (b));
- g. Emerging issues and governance: Arab countries 2025 (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- h. The Millennium Development Goals and governance (brainstorming session) (2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(b) *Other substantive activities (regular budget)*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

- a. Trends and Impacts in Conflict Settings (Issue 3): Property Rights, Food Security and Conflict in the ESCWA Region (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Governance and Peacebuilding (Issue 1): Local Governance in Conflict Settings (2012, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. Development Coordination in Conflict Affected Countries: Enhancing Concerned Public Institutions (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- b. Youth Employability and Peacebuilding (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Mainstreaming Conflict Management Mechanisms through Public Sector Modernization (2012, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(iii) *Technical material*

- a. Working paper series (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Strengthening Development Coordination among Regional Actors in the ESCWA Region (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Enhancing Essential Services Delivery at the Local Level in Conflict Settings (2012, expected accomplishment (b)).

(iv) *Electronic issuances*

- a. Contribution to the United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN) website (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- b. Maintenance of ECRI web page on ESCWA website (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(v) *Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits*

- a. Booklet on youth employment, reconciliation and peacebuilding (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Booklet on land governance (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Factsheets on the socio-economic conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Brochure on local governance and peacebuilding (2013, expected accomplishment (a));
- e. Information kit on conflict mitigation and development (2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- f. Booklet on ESCWA flagship publication *Arab Countries 2025* (2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(vi) *Special events*

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (a)).

(vii) *Contribution to inter-agency meetings and joint outputs*

- a. Contribution to the activities of the Division for Public Administration and Development Management of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA/DPADM) (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Contribution to the United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) of five conflict affected countries in the ESCWA region (2012-2013, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. “Governance” (contribution to ESCWA flagship publication *Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region*) (2012-2013, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*

(i) *Field projects*

- a. Promoting Civic Values and Life Skills through Education in Iraq (2012, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Iraq Public Sector Modernization (2012, expected accomplishment (b)).

(d) *Conference services and administration oversight*

Discretionary self-assessment of subprogramme 7 (2012, related to all expected accomplishments).

Annex**LEGISLATIVE MANDATES***General Assembly resolutions*

55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/270 A and 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
60/265	Follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals
61/16	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
61/49	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference
61/157	Human rights and extreme poverty
61/266	Multilingualism
62/208	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
63/17	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States
63/227	Implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
64/1	High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
64/141	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
64/172	The right to development
64/210	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
64/216	Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)
64/221	South-South cooperation
64/223	Towards global partnerships

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 development 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
2009/1	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
2009/9	The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States
2009/12	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
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
2009/31	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia 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

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| 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 |

Subprogramme 1

Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development

General Assembly resolutions

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| 57/253 | World Summit on Sustainable Development |
| 60/200 | International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006 |
| 61/215 | Industrial development cooperation |
| 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 |
| 64/200 | International Strategy for Disaster Reduction |
| 64/201 | United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010-2020) |
| 64/202 | Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa |
| 64/206 | Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy |
| 64/224 | Agriculture development and food security |
| 64/236 | Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

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| 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 |

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

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| 255 (XXIII) | The establishment of a regional mechanism for building capacities to manage shared water resources |
| 281 (XXV) | Addressing climate change issues in the Arab region |

Subprogramme 2
Integrated social policies

General Assembly resolutions

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| 63/225 | International migration and development |
| 64/130 | Policies and programmes involving youth |
| 64/131 | Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities |
| 64/132 | Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing |
| 64/133 | Follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond |
| 64/134 | Proclamation of 2010 as the International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding |
| 64/135 | Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly |
| 64/154 | Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto |
| 64/166 | Protection of migrants |
| 64/207 | Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

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| 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 and methods of work of the Commission for 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 |
| 2008/20 | Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights |

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolution

285 (XXV) Integrated social policy

Subprogramme 3**Economic development and integration***General Assembly resolutions*

60/5 Improving global road safety

63/277 Organization of a United Nations conference at the highest level on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development

64/188 International trade and development

64/191 External debt sustainability and development

64/193 Follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the 2008 Review Conference (Doha Declaration on Financing for Development)

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2006/4 Sustained economic growth for social development, including the eradication of poverty and hunger

2007/2 The role of the United Nations system in providing full and productive employment and decent work for all

2007/30 Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

2009/30 A strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

256 (XXIII) Adoption of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Maritime Transport in the Arab Mashreq

257 (XXIII) Selection of the routes to be given priority in implementation of the Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq

265 (XXIII) Regional cooperation in the field of road traffic safety

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

Subprogramme 4

Information and communications technology for regional integration

General Assembly resolutions

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| 60/252 | World Summit on the Information Society |
| 64/187 | Information and communications technologies for development |
| 64/212 | Science and technology for development |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

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| 2006/46 | Follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development |
| 2009/7 | Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society |
| 2009/8 | Science and technology for development |

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

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| 273 (XXIV) | Follow-up to the development of the Information Society in Western Asia |
| 284 (XXV) | Establishment of the ESCWA regional technology centre |

Subprogramme 5

Statistics for evidence-based policymaking

General Assembly resolutions

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| 63/225 | International migration and development |
| 64/131 | Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities |
| 64/132 | Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing |
| 64/137 | Intensification of the efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women |
| 64/139 | Violence against women migrant workers |
| 64/217 | Women in development |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

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| 2005/13 | 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme |
| 2006/6 | Strengthening statistical capacity |

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

- 262 (XXIII) Support for the Capacities of Member Countries in the Field of Statistics and the International Comparison Programme
- 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

Subprogramme 6
Advancement of women

General Assembly resolutions

- 64/137 Intensification of the efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
- 64/138 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- 64/141 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
- 64/217 Women in development

Economic and Social Council resolution

- 2009/14 Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolution

- 278 (XXIV) Increasing the role of women in decision-making with respect to conflict prevention and peacebuilding

Subprogramme 7
Conflict mitigation and development

General Assembly resolutions

- 64/125 Assistance to the Palestinian people
- 64/150 The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination
- 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

Economic and Social Council resolutions

- 2005/3 Public administration and development

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| 2009/18 | Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its eighth session |
| 2009/34 | 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 |

Security Council resolution

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| 1645 (2005) | Post-conflict peacebuilding |
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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

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| 260 (XXIII) | Development and regional cooperation under unstable conditions |
| 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 |
