



## **Summary Assessment of the Outcome of the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission\***

Bangkok  
19-25 May 2011

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\* Prepared by the Programme Management Division based on written feedback to a survey questionnaire provided to the government delegations that attended the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission.

# **Summary Assessment of the Outcome of the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission**

## **I. Introduction**

The 67<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission was held in Bangkok from 19-25 May 2011.

A questionnaire covering aspects related to the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of the Commission session was distributed to delegations attending the session. Twenty-six of the 49 ESCAP member and associate members attended the session and ~53% responded to the questionnaire. The present assessment has been prepared on the basis of the feedback received from those 26 delegations.

The purpose of the assessment is (a) to support the secretariat's ongoing efforts to improve its servicing of sessions of the Commission; and (b) to assist the Commission in making decisions on the structure and functioning of its conference structure.

Pursuant to Commission resolution 64/1, which requested the Executive Secretary to "undertake systematic monitoring and evaluation of the conference structure and its link to the programme priorities of the Commission", the assessment will feed into a review of the Commission's conference structure, at its sixty-ninth session. A midterm review was conducted in 2011 at the Commission's 67<sup>th</sup> session with a focus "in particular on the extent to which the conference structure has served the purpose of improving efficiency and attracting higher and wider representation from members and associate members."

## **II. Attendance**

49 ESCAP members and associate members (~79%) participated at the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission. 24 governments were represented at the ministerial level, of those, 11 were represented by full ministers and 3 by Heads of State.

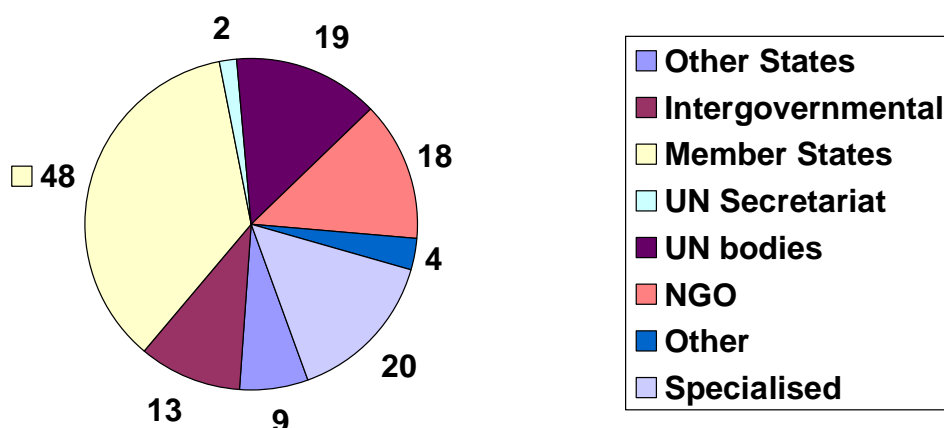
A total number of 339 participants attended the session. Of that total, 254 were from member and associated member States, while 85 participants were from the 49 other entities present, as described in the chart on page 2 (for further details see Annex I, II and III).

Respondents put forward the following main reasons as influencing the composition of their delegations:

- 1) The role and importance of ESCAP as a regional forum for discussions and exchange of experiences on economic and social development issues; and
- 2) The relevance of the agenda items, especially those addressing the LLDCs and the theme topic.

Delegates were asked what could have increased the level of their participation, and among the suggestions raised were: Commission session should take place during a time when countries have finished budget sessions and better coordination between

ESCAP and permanent missions could enable high-level participation, especially from higher ranking officials. Some also raised the possibility of contributing funding support to participants.



Type and Number of entities attendance at the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission.

### III. Ownership and Participation

The responses received regarding the sense of ownership and level of participation at the Commission session were positive. The majority responded that the Commission session was owned and driven by member States to a good extent. A large majority indicated that the benefits of their attendance justified the related costs to a good or great extent.

The majority of respondents agreed that the number of Committees of the Whole (parallel sessions), allowed all delegations to participate fully.

The majority of respondents indicated that the overall outcome of the deliberations was positive and was a result of a collaborative effort by member States. They also indicated that the draft reports accurately reflected the discussions, decisions and recommendations of the Commission and the secretariat's in-session interventions contributed to effective conduct and outcome of the session.

<b>A. Overall relevance</b>					
<b>1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?</b>	<b>To a great extent (1)</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>Not at all (5)</b>
a. The Commission is a key intergovernmental forum and the most representative body for the Asian and Pacific region to consider issues related to inclusive and sustainable economic and social development.	16(62%)	7(27%)	2(8%)	1(4%)	0(0%)
b. The session contributed to the achievement of the Commission's mandate to serve as the main economic and social development centre of the United Nations system for the Asian and Pacific region.	12(46%)	12(46%)	2(8%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
c. The Commission is achieving synergies and building effective partnerships with other relevant intergovernmental and international (including UN system) organizations at the regional and subregional levels.	11(42%)	11(42%)	3(12%)	1(4%)	0(0%)
d. The theme for the sixty-seventh Commission session: <b>"Beyond the crises: long-term perspectives on social protection and development in Asia and the Pacific"</b> reflects the current needs and priorities of the region in general, and my country/territory in particular.	14(54%)	10(38%)	2(8%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
<b>2. What could have been done to improve the overall relevance and outcome(s) of the Commission session?</b>					

#### **IV. Overall relevance and outcomes**

The feed-back indicated that participants found the Commission session a relevant mechanism for the consideration of issues related to inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in the region and the 67<sup>th</sup> session to have achieved a satisfactory outcome.

The vast majority of respondents agreed to a great extent that the Commission session was a key intergovernmental forum and the most representative body for the Asian and Pacific region for considering issues related to inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in the region.

Almost half (46%) of the respondents agreed that the session contributed to a great extent to the achievement of the Commission's mandate to serve as the main economic and social development centre of the United Nations system for the Asian and Pacific region. Respondents also agreed that the Commission was achieving synergies and building effective partnerships with other intergovernmental and international organizations at the regional and subregional levels.

The theme topic chosen for the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission, “Beyond the Crisis: Long-term perspectives on social protection and development in Asia and the Pacific”, was seen by the majority to have reflected the current needs and priorities of the region to a great extent.

<b>B. Outcomes of the <u>Senior Officials segment</u> (19-21 May 2011)</b>						
<b>3. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the <u>Senior Officials segment</u>?</b>	<b>To a great extent (1)</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>Not at all (5)</b>	<b>Did not attend</b>
a. The deliberations were focused and effective at identifying the key emerging issues that merit policy attention in the region.	9(35%)	11(42%)	4(15%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	2(8%)
b. The deliberations were effective at discussing progress achieved and gaps requiring priority attention with regard to the implementation of Commission resolutions and decisions.	7(27%)	15(58%)	2(8%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	2(8%)
c. The deliberations were effective at deciding on the recommendations of the subsidiary bodies.	10(38%)	10(38%)	4(15%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	2(8%)
d. The deliberations were effective at providing guidance to the work of the secretariat, in particular the draft programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013.	9(35%)	9(35%)	5(19%)	0(0%)	1(4%)	2(8%)
e. The Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries was successful in highlighting the priority concerns of these countries and identifying measures to address these concerns through regional cooperation.	11(42%)	8 (31%)	5(19%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	2(8%)
<b>4. What could have been done to improve the <i>Senior Officials</i> segment of the Commission session?</b>						

#### **a. Outcomes of the Senior Officials segment**

The responses regarding the outcomes of the Senior Officials segment demonstrated that it is viewed by respondents as an effective mechanism for discussing issues of importance to the region.

The majority responded that the deliberations during the Senior Officials segment were focused and effective to a great or good extent at identifying key emerging issues that merit policy attention in the region and deciding on the recommendations of the subsidiary bodies.

A majority also indicated that the session was successful to a great or good extent in deliberating on progress and gaps in the implementation of Commission resolutions and in providing guidance on the work of the secretariat.

More than half of the respondents indicated that the Special Body on Least Developed Countries and Landlocked Developing Countries was successful to a great or good extent in highlighting priority concerns of these countries and identifying measures to address those concerns through regional cooperation.

<b>C. Outcomes of the <u>Ministerial segment</u> (23-25 May 2011)</b>						
<b>5. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the <u>Ministerial segment</u>?</b>	<b>To a great extent (1)</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>Not at all (5)</b>	<b>Did not attend</b>
a. The deliberations were focused and effective at generating policy options for addressing key socio-economic issues affecting the region.	11(42%)	11(42%)	4(15%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
b. The deliberations were effective in highlighting areas for regional cooperation to address key socio-economic issues affecting the region.	10(38%)	14(54%)	2(8%)	0(0%)	0(8%)	0(8%)
c. The resolutions and decisions adopted reflected the key outcomes of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission.	15(58%)	8(31%)	3(12%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
<b>6. What could have been done to improve the <i>Ministerial</i> segment of the Commission session?</b>						

### **b. Outcomes of the Ministerial segment**

The views on the outcomes of the Ministerial segment were positive.

The majority responded that the deliberations were focused and effective to a good or great extent at generating policy options for addressing key socio-economic issues affecting the region. The responses regarding the deliberations on highlighting areas for regional cooperation to address key socio-economic issues affecting the region were even more positive.

The majority responded that the resolutions and decisions adopted reflected the key outcomes of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission.

## II. Organizational aspects of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission

A. Organization and servicing by the secretariat					
1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?	To a great extent (1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Not at all (5)
a. Sufficient time was allocated to agenda items during the session.	13(50%)	9(35%)	4(15%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
b. The servicing by the secretariat facilitated effective outcomes.	16(62%)	5(19%)	4(15%)	1(4%)	0(0%)
c. The organization of work between Commission sessions contributed to the effective functioning of the Commission session (ACPR, Committees, Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions (IWGDR), communication with the secretariat, etc.).	14(54%)	9(35%)	3(12%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
d. The communication between the secretariat and member States between Commission sessions contributed to the effective functioning of the Commission session.	13(50%)	8(31%)	5(19%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
e. The conduct of the meetings of the Working Group on Draft Resolutions was effective for enabling <b>interactive discussions</b> .	16(62%)	9(35%)	1(4%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
f. The conduct of the meetings of the Working Group on Draft Resolutions was effective for <b>reaching consensus</b> .	14(54%)	9(35%)	2(8)	0(0%)	1(4%)
g. The submission of draft resolutions by member States before the commencement of the Commission session allowed sufficient time for review by members and associate members of the Commission.	9(35%)	8(31%)	7(27%)	2(8%)	0(0%)
h. Pre-session servicing by the secretariat through the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions related to preparation and review of the draft resolutions for tabling provided a useful basis for decision-making during the Commission session.	12(46%)	14(54%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
<b>2. What could have been done to improve the organization and servicing of the Commission session?</b>					

### V. Organizational aspects

The responses on the organizational aspects of the Commission session demonstrated overall that the secretariat effectively and efficiently serviced the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission.

### **a. Organization and servicing by the secretariat**

A majority of respondents agreed that sufficient time was allocated to agenda items during the session, and that the servicing by the secretariat facilitated effective outcomes.

While a majority was also positive in their feedback on the organization of work in-between sessions, the responses indicated that more attention could be paid to communication between member States and the secretariat in-between Commission sessions, and the submission of draft resolutions by member States before the commencement of the Commission session to allow sufficient time for review by members and associate members of the Commission.

<b>B. Documents</b>					
<b>3. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?</b>	<b>To a great extent (1)</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>Not at all (5)</b>
a. The pre-session documents conveyed clear messages concerning the issues placed on the agenda.	13(50%)	10(38%)	3(12%)	0(0%)	0(0%)
b. The pre-session documents were issued in a timely manner.	9(35%)	11(42%)	3(12%)	3(12%)	0(0%)
c. The posting of documents through the ESCAP website facilitated my delegations review.	16(62%)	8(31%)	2(8%)	0(0%)	0(8%)

### **b. Documents**

The views on documentation for the Commission session were positive. The majority responded that the pre-session documents conveyed clear messages concerning the issues placed on the agenda, and that the posting of documents through the ESCAP website facilitated review by delegations to a good or great extent.

## **VI. Most and least successful feature**

The questionnaire provided space for respondents to comment on the most and least successful features of the Commission session.

The Ministerial Roundtable, the High-level Panel and the Working Group on Draft Resolutions received the highest number of comments as the most successful features of the Commission session. Also, some delegations expressed their satisfaction with the Special Body on Least Developed Countries and Landlocked Developing Countries and the administrative support of the secretariat.



A number of least favorite features of the 67<sup>th</sup> session were cited: some sessions were too long; changes in the timetable were not communicated and some country statements did not reflect the theme topic of the session.

## **VII. Conclusion and additional comments**

This assessment demonstrates that the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission successfully attracted high and wide representation and was conducted efficiently, enabling participants to discuss and negotiate issues of importance for the Region. Member States expressed general satisfaction with the preparations for, servicing and outcome of the 67<sup>th</sup> session and continue to consider the Commission an important regional body for discussing issues of regional and global importance.

Additional comments by respondents indicate a number of issues that could be improved or addressed in order to make deliberations of the Commission even more effective in the future:

- 1) Timely distribution of documents and other information to enable consideration by governments prior to the session;
- 2) Earlier of preparations of theme topic and adoption of draft resolutions;
- 3) Guidelines for country statements to ensure focus on agenda items, the theme topic and the topics of proposed resolutions;
- 4) More substantive deliberations and interactive discussions, in addition to presentation of prepared positions.

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## Annex I

### Members State participants

	Country	No. of participants		Country	No. of participants
1	Afghanistan	3	33	Palau	1
2	Armenia	1	34	Papua New Guinea	3
3	Australia	3	35	Philippines	12
4	Azerbaijan*	-	36	Rep. of Korea	15
5	Bangladesh	6	37	Russian Federation	11
6	Bhutan	6	38	Samoa	1
7	Brunei Darussalam	4	39	Singapore	2
8	Cambodia	9	40	Solomon Islands	5
9	China	10	41	Sri Lanka	7
10	DPRK	3	42	Tajikistan*	-
11	Fiji	5	43	Thailand	80
12	France	2	44	Timor-Leste	1
13	Georgia*	-	45	Tonga	1
14	India	6	46	Turkey	5
15	Indonesia	21	47	Turkmenistan*	-
16	Islamic Rep. of Iran	20	48	Tuvalu	2
17	Japan	12	49	UK	2
18	Kazakhstan	3	50	USA	6
19	Kiribati	7	51	Uzbekistan	2
20	Kyrgyzstan	3	52	Vanuatu	1
21	Lao PDR	8	53	Viet Nam	5
22	Malaysia	5			
23	Maldives*	-		<b>Associate members</b>	
24	Marshall Island	1	54	American Samoa*	-
25	Micronesia*	-	55	Cook Islands*	-
26	Mongolia	9	56	French Polynesia*	-
27	Myanmar	5	57	Guam*	-
28	Nauru	5	58	Hong Kong, China	1
29	Nepal	5	59	Macao, China	8
30	Netherlands	1	60	New Caledonia*	-
31	New Zealand	1	61	Niue*	-
32	Pakistan	4	62	Northern Mariana Islands*	-
<b>Total no. of member State participants</b>			<b>339</b>		

\* Countries did not attend

## Annex II

### 67th Commission session

19-25 May 2011

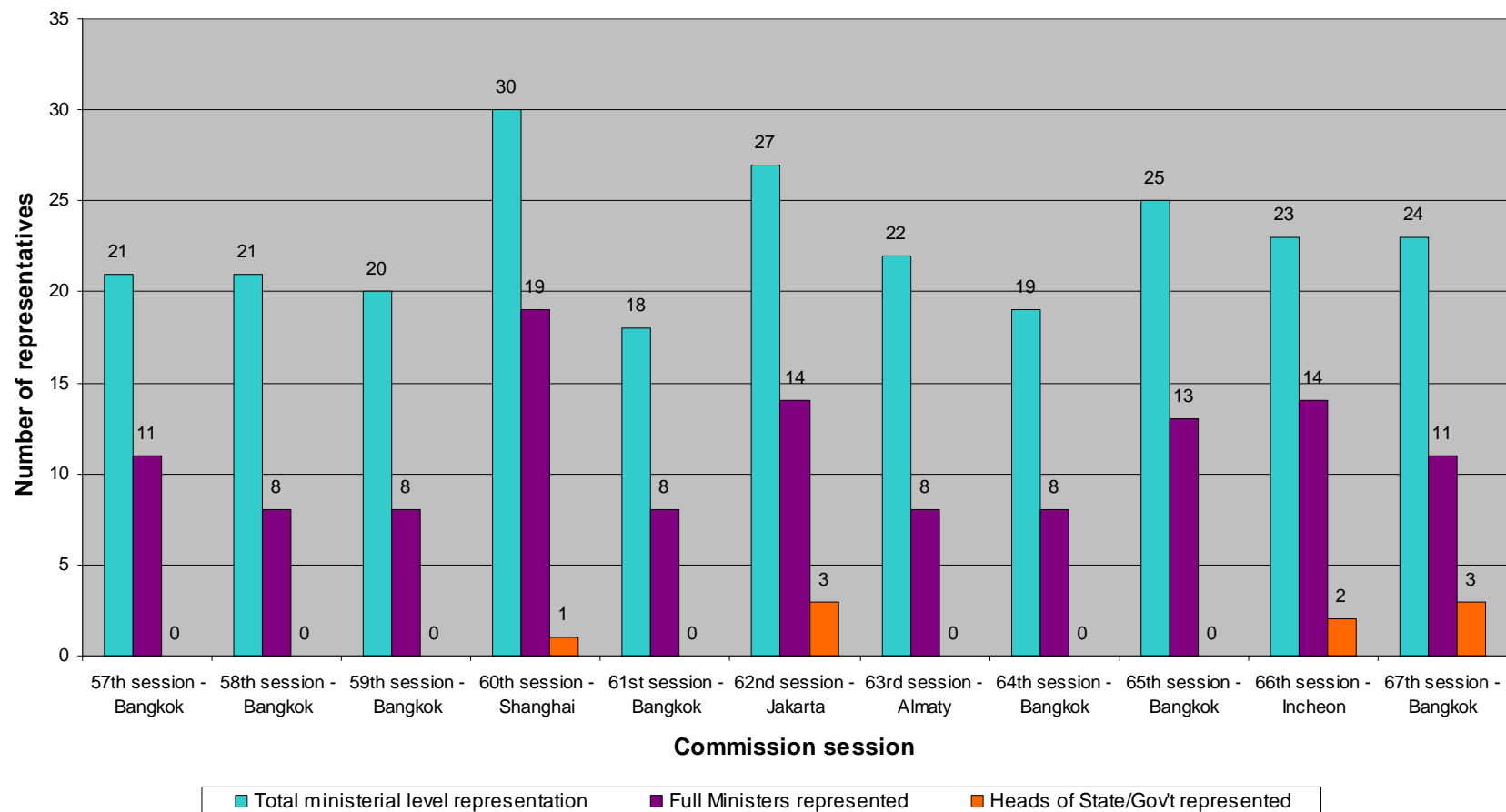
Bangkok

#### Non-member State participants

		No. of participants			No. of participants
	<b>Other States</b>			<b>Intergovernmental Organizations</b>	
1	Belgium	1	28	APCC	1
2	Holy See	3	29	ADB	1
3	Morocco	1	30	APEC	1
4	Romania	1	31	ASEAN	1
5	South Africa	3	32	CCOP	2
			33	ECO	1
		<b>9</b>	34	IJSG	1
	<b>United Nations Secretariat</b>		35	IOM	1
6	ECLAC	1	36	IPC	1
7	RCNYO	1	37	PIFS	1
			38	CICA	1
		<b>2</b>	39	TYPHOON COMMITTEE	1
	<b>United Nations Bodies</b>				
8	UNAIDS	5			<b>13</b>
9	OHCHR	1		<b>Non-Governmental Organizations</b>	
10	UNICEF	2	40	FI	1
11	UNCCD	1	41	HELPAGE	1
12	UNDP	1	42	ATDFW	1
13	UN WOMEN	2	43	ITUC	1
14	UNEP	1	44	BIC	1
15	UNHCR	1	45	DPI	9
16	UN-HABITAT	1	46	PPSEAWA	3
17	UNITAR	1	47	WASME	1
18	UNISDR	2			
19	UNFPA	1			<b>18</b>
		<b>19</b>		<b>Other Entities</b>	
	<b>Specialized Agencies</b>		48	APCD	3
20	FAO	8	49	SMOM	1
21	IMO	1			
22	ITU	6			<b>4</b>
23	UNESCO	1			
24	UNIDO	1			
25	UPU	1			
26	WB	1			

27	WHO	1		
		<b>20</b>		
<b>Total no. of non-member State participants</b>			<b>85</b>	

**Number of ESCAP members and associate members  
with representation at the ministerial level\* at the 57th to 67th sessions of the Commission  
(covering years 2001-2011)**



\*Includes Ministers, Vice-Ministers, Deputy-Ministers, Assistant-Ministers or their equivalents.

**Annex IV**  
**Questionnaire Comments**  
*[Verbatim from the completed questionnaires]*

**Evaluation summary of the outcome of Sixty-seventh session of the  
Commission  
19-25 May 2011, Bangkok**

**QUESTIONNAIRE COMMENTS**

**Part I**

**Question 2** – What could have been done to improve the overall relevance and outcome(s) of the Commission session?

- **Australia:** Overall, the Commission session was a relevant mechanism for the consideration of issues related to inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in the region.
- **Brunei Darussalam:** Invite multilateral institutions and regional groupings such as ADB, WB, IMF, ASEAN, APEC, etc.
- **Republic of Korea:** The topic of this year's session was, in my opinion, too specifically focused on welfare, which is not an easy area to produce outcome in inter-government meetings.

**Question 4** – What could have been done to improve the Senior Officials segment of the Commission session?

- **Australia:** Senior officials segment was effective for discussing issues of importance to the region, particularly countries with special needs. The segment could have been more results-oriented by translating policy options into outcomes and actions.
- **Brunei Darussalam:** Should be preceded by working group meetings.
- **Cambodia:** More guidelines on contents of intervention or instruction by Chair should be more in order to make intervention focused and complete within allowed time.
- **Marshall Island:** None at this time. Being my very first time to participate on behalf of my government.
- **PNG:** No comments. Delegation was satisfied with the arrangements of the Senior Official segment at the Commission session.
- **Russian Federation:** The draft programme of work should be considered by the ACPR prior sending the budget to New York to make appropriate amendments.

**Question 6** – What could have been done to improve the Ministerial segment of the Commission session?

- **Australia:** Ministerial Officials segment could have been more results-oriented by translating policy options into actions for regional cooperation.
- **Bangladesh:** Ministerial roundtables were general useful and effective in highlighting concern on specific issues discussed. Effort could be taken to make them more interactive. Roundtable on social development could be a module to follow.
- **Brunei Darussalam:** Set clear objectives to fulfill/achieve and focus the discussions on them, instead of self-deciding statements.
- **Cambodia:** More guidelines on contents of intervention/statement or instruction by Chair should be more in order to make intervention/statement focused and complete within allowed time.
- **Marshall Island:** Same as stated in item 4.
- **PNG:** All members should have been allowed to complete presentation of the country statement.
- **Republic of Korea:** Too many repeat on the 'current economic situation in Asia Pacific' by Ministers in their speeches could have been avoided.
- **Samoa:** Country Statements should have been limited; some country speeches took longer than required.
- **Thailand:** Better time management to make the session more interactive.

## **Part II**

**Question 2** – What could have been done to improve the organization and servicing of the Commissions session?

- **Australia:** Overall the organization and servicing of Commission was extremely efficient and effective.
- **Bangladesh:** Selection of Commission Chairs may be streamlined, so that every sub-region is able to chair in a sequential and predictable manner. Prior consultation on this issue would also ensure higher level of participation, at least from the Chair country. Length of the session needs to be rationalized. It is too long.
- **Brunei Darussalam:** Stronger leadership and direction.
- **Indonesia:** Correction for list of participants was not promptly taken care of. Statements could be limited/shortened to 5 minutes.
- **Islamic Republic of Iran:** Disappearance of draft resolutions from the webpage (earlier versions) was not expected. Please post the earlier versions for the future use.
- **Japan:** Member States could have submitted draft resolutions sufficiently earlier than the commencement of the Commission session.
- **Marshall Island:** I am not in position yet to make any at this time. I need to learn and understand more about ESCAP.

- **PNG:** Delegation was satisfied with the services provided by the ESCAP secretariat.
- **Republic of Korea:** We could consider introducing deadline of submitting draft resolution to allow other members sufficient time for review.
- **Thailand:** Some draft resolutions should have been submitted at least two weeks before the session begins.

### **Part III**

**Question 3** – What motivated your Government to designate the level of your delegation to participate in the Commission session?

- **Australia:** The role and importance of ESCAP as a regional forum for discussions and need to exchange of experiences on economic and social development issues.
- **Bangladesh:** High importance attached to the issues dealt with by ESCAP, it's relevance as the Forum for addressing
- **Brunei Darussalam:** The level of relevance and commitment of topic and goals.
- **Cambodia:** The session of the ESCAP updates issues with good recommendations which are significant to put in policy paper.
- **Fiji:** Recognition ESCAP's importance in providing the important development linkage between Asia and the Pacific.
- **Indonesia:** Relevancy.
- **Islamic Republic of Iran:** Important resolutions as well as better cooperation with the secretariat.
- **Japan:** To show my Government's commitment to activities at ESCAP.
- **Malaysia:** Sharing experiences of the government of Malaysia in social protection in Malaysia.
- **Marshall Island:** My assigned Minister could not be here due to other work commitments.
- **Mongolia:** Bringing issues of LLDC's to the highlight of the session as well as recent visit by ES to Mongolia contributed a lot to higher attention by the Government to this session.
- **Nepal:** Giving importance to ESCAP
- **PNG:** Participation in the Commission session is in annual commitment of PNG government.
- **Republic of Korea:** The topic, Nature of pending issues.
- **Samoa:** Issues and theme of discussion important for Samoa's development.
- **Solomon Islands:** This is a very significant conference whereby issues in the region can be raised as well as collectively look at the road forward.
- **Thailand:** The importance of the ESCAP session.



- **Tonga:** Participation will help awareness of economic and social development issues in the Asia-Pacific region and learning experiences of the Asia-Pacific Region on eco and social development issues.

**Question 4** – Is there anything that could have been done to encourage higher (rank) and wider (intersectoral) representation from your delegation at the Commission session?

- **Bangladesh:** The Commission session take place during this time when budget session of the parliament is taking place. Pre-pending the date could provide scope for higher level participation.
- **Brunei Darussalam:** More discussion on cooperation that requires commitment.
- **Cambodia:** Contributive funding support for participation of the session.
- **Mongolia:** Better coordination among ESCAP secretariat and permanent mission and the relevant authorities/ministries in the capital is vital for consolidated voice at a high rank of the country at the session.
- **Nepal:** Higher and wider representation would be better.
- **PNG:** Letter of invitation from Executive Secretary to the Foreign Minister to attend the session might have helped on attendance level.
- **Republic of Korea:** If the topic or pending issues are more directly linked to our delegation, higher representation could be achieved.
- **Samoa:** Current setting satisfactory.
- **Solomon Islands:** There is much interest in participation at a wider representative sector. However, we as LDC face difficulty in funding wider participation especially in the private sectors.
- **Tonga:** Timing of meeting clashes with budget finalization for next budget cycle hence the unavailability of higher ranking officers.

**Question 5** – What was the most successful feature of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission?

- **Australia:** The Ministerial Roundtable on ‘Beyond the Crises: Long Term Perspectives on Social Protection and Development in Asia and the Pacific. In particular, the moderator from the BBC was very effective.
- **Bangladesh:** Resolutions adopted.
- **Brunei Darussalam:** Organizing and environment of conference are conducive.
- **Cambodia:** Bringing up delegation, including academicians, to discuss on “social protection”.
- **Fiji:** High level panel discussions.

- **Islamic Republic of Iran:** Resolutions.
- **Japan:** Ministerial Roundtable on the theme topic.
- **Marshall Island:** For me, being here for the first time, the session was a success from perspective.
- **Mongolia:** The Special Body on LDC's and LLDC's. High-level panel: Sustaining dynamism and inclusive development.
- **Nepal:** Discussion on theme subject.
- **PNG:** Member countries reaching consensus on the key areas of development challenges and ways of addressing the challenging through connectivity and regional integration.
- **Republic of Korea:** Efforts to make Ministerial segments more "dynamic" seemed desirable.
- **Russian Federation:** Consensus on the draft resolutions.
- **Samoa:** Organization and arrangements during meeting of Official and Ministerial segment.
- **Solomon Islands:** Most successful feature of the session is identifying the common diverse problems we face within the region over the years.
- **Thailand:** Interactive discussion during the Roundtable in which countries share their experience and best practices.
- **Tonga:** 1) Senior official segment: finalization of draft resolutions; 2) Ministerial segment: roundtable panel on social protection and high level panel discussion.
- **Vanuatu:** The Ministerial Roundtable facilitated by Ms. Nisha. It was very dynamic and informative.
- **Hong Kong:** Excellent administrative support of the secretariat. Impressive working attitude of staff. Good chairmanship at meetings.

**Question 6** – What was the least successful feature of the sixty-seventh session of the Commission?

- **Australia:** The high level panel on "Economic and social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2011: Sustaining dynamism and inclusive development – Connectivity in the region and productive capacity in LDCs"
- **Bangladesh:** Roundtable on MDGs acceleration strategies lacked focused and substance.
- **Brunei Darussalam:** Too long and tangible outcomes.
- **Fiji:** None.
- **Japan:** Lateness of the submission of quite a few draft resolutions.
- **Republic of Korea:** Changes in time table and lacking information for example on the luncheon forums made preparation difficult.

- **Russian Federation:** Taught negotiations on the draft resolutions and food shortage at the first day of the Ministerial segment.
- **Solomon Islands:** One of the most least successful feature not clear solution in addressing issues of small developing States like those of the Pacific Island.
- **Thailand:** Some country statements not reflecting the theme topic of the session.

**Question 7** – Please provide any additional comments you may have on the sixty-seventh session of the Commission and any suggestions for the improvement of the future sessions.

- **Brunei Darussalam:** Better relevance of resolutions to theme and discussion.
- **Cambodia:** Conduct survey and identifying factors for encouraging participants to join and deliberate during session. Time for adoption of draft report from one paragraph to the other should be enough, not just saying “No objection, approve”. Draft resolution should be published or ready long enough before the session that would help to reduce intense discussion during the actual session. Revise rules, providing contributive funds to help member States to rotate holding session of the ESCAP to ensure broad range of stakeholders, especially civil societies, to join.
- **China:** Many thanks to the hard but fruitful work done by the Secretariat on organizing the Informal and Formal working Group on Draft Resolutions.
- **Indonesia:** Roundtables with prominent figures.
- **Japan:** Member States should be encouraged to submit draft resolutions to the relevant Committees prior to their submission to the Commission.
- **Tonga:** Acknowledge the great effort of secretariat in organizing this successful sixty-seventh session. The materials are all well organized and made available in advance. The webpage is also helpful with information on the sixty-seventh session.

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