Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Committee Staff

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Agenda

I. Promoting Climate Resilience
II. Transitioning to Sustainable Energy: Meeting Growing Energy Demands
III. Information and Communications Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

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Summary Report
The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

I. Transitioning to Sustainable Energy: Meeting Growing Energy Demands  
II. Information and Communications Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction  
III. Promoting Climate Resilience

The session was attended by representatives of 33 Member States and no Observers.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of III, I, II beginning discussion on the topic of “Promoting Climate Resilience.” By Tuesday, the dais received a total of 6 proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics such as disaster information databases, accessible sustainable energy, climate resilient infrastructure, climate resilient mitigation and adaptation, education and empowerment of women for climate resilience, and resilient agricultural practices. The atmosphere of debate was respectful and collaborative. Delegates split into 6 groups on Monday and continued their progression on working papers in a timely manner through Tuesday. By the end of Tuesday’s last session there were a total of 6 working papers being edited and a merge between 2 working groups. The committee skillfully demonstrated their diplomacy, negotiation, and knowledge of this topic through well-developed formal speeches, and collaborative working sessions.

On Wednesday, 4 draft resolutions had been approved by the dais. The committee adopted 4 resolutions following voting procedure, 1 of which received unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including agricultural reform and advancements, investment incentives, physical infrastructure reform, database and data collection improvements, sustainable and renewable energy. Delegates' passion for the committee was demonstrated following voting procedure, when multiple new working groups formed to address the second topic on the agenda.
The Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific,

Conscious of the need to promote climate resilience by beginning a slow transition to clean, sustainable energy, while also recognizing the costs affiliated, as specified in General Assembly resolution 69/225 on “Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy”, especially among the global south,

Fully aware of the goals stated in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), which works to reduce the loss of life, create international collaboration efforts for disaster risk reduction, create and maintain resilient infrastructure, and supports economic development,

Cognizant of the detrimental impact of weather-related disasters in congruence with General Assembly resolution 69/283 on “Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030” and acknowledging the work of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and their regional reports to analyze weather patterns in affected areas that seek to outline at-risk Member States, degree of impact of storms, and impact to energy infrastructure,

Reaffirms the work of the International Water Management Institute’s work with the Consultative Group for International Agriculture Research (CGIAR) in using geospatial data mapping using the State’s own satellites to effectively locate regions at risk for natural disasters,

Noting that sustainable energy resources are more susceptible to infrastructure damage within the region from natural disasters and recognizing the need for these energy sources to serve a strong foundation for communities at risk of sustaining damage from natural disasters to promote climate resilience,

Recalling the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Forum on Coal, including discussion of clean coal technologies which encourages Member States to actively ensure safe coal practices by advancing towards sustainable energy transitions,

Bearing in mind the need to ensure the access of electricity in remote areas exposed to extreme weather patterns and socio-economic disruption, and that those areas are more susceptible to natural disasters as they don’t have reliable access to communication systems,

1. Encourages Member States to create incentives for private sectors which foster partnerships with relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to invest in wind, solar, hydroelectric, and other clean energy practices by offering:
   a. Tax incentives to be implemented for businesses with guidance from NGOs to determine whether private organizations will be eligible which will be subjected to each Member States’ approval;
   b. Tax exemption for projects reducing greenhouse gas emissions to be determined by individual Member States;
2. **Proposes** that Member States begin promoting climate resilience by researching and implementing clean, renewable energy as soon as they are financially capable, as determined by the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing through:

   a. Promoting solar, wind, and hydroelectric power as alternative energy sources;
   b. Encouraging further research on recycling methane gas produced by livestock as a clean, renewable energy source;
   c. Endorsing research of exploitation of existing natural resources, including the testing and production of sea barriers with electricity-generated turbines and linked cylindrical generators to harness power from ocean tides;

3. **Suggests** that Member States to incorporate UNISDR into the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), to incorporate a disaster management framework and collaborate directly with its Reference Group on Risk, Early Warning, and Preparedness by developing:

   a. A voluntary inter-agency monitoring program which will allow for a more integrated strategy to through the coordination of UNISDR and IASC to analyze and predict disasters;
   b. Initiatives, such as community feedback, for affected Member States to work alongside the WMO in working towards improving access to prevention services;

4. **Expresses** the hope that Member States will work in collaboration with the CGIAR and local and regional financial institutions to use geospatial data mapping to locate regions where there are clustered power grids and develop financial risk assessment frameworks to:

   a. Assist emerging markets in the financing of sustainable energy production;
   b. Create regional financial modeling frameworks to assist regional and local financial institutions in assessing risk;

5. **Urges** Member States to create resilient infrastructure for sustainable energy resources and as Member States implement their transitional initiatives for sustainable energy, this technology must withstand natural disasters within the region in order to:

   a. Ensure that Information Communication Technology (ICT) as well as sustainable energy resources are equitably distributed and accessible within at-risk communities among Member States;
   b. Apply preventative initiatives using sustainable energy to power ICTs that warn communities as these resources become more developed in the promotion of climate resilience;

6. **Invites** Member States to encourage the use of these energy sources in a clean and efficient way by:

   a. Using cost-effective energy sources, such as High Efficiency Low Emission coal technology, as a precursor to sustainable energy practices to benefit all communities;
   b. Encouraging Asian-Pacific Member States who are engaged in coal production, beginning in 2020, to participate and share their progress towards transitioning to sustainable energy with the hope that every Member State engaged in coal production is able to reduce regional coal output 10% per decade by the year 2060;

7. **Emphasizes** the need to make electricity widely available in remote areas by:

   a. Utilizing sustainable energy sources such as windmills and diesel solar hybrid power systems to be set up in remote areas that are not dependent on larger electricity grids;
b. Fostering research into improving the effectiveness of electricity infrastructure;

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c. Improving electric infrastructure by the expansion of the overhead and underground power lines.
The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement that urges action on changing weather patterns which further serves to underline the negative aspects of greenhouse gas emissions, encourages mitigation, adaptation, financing, and reiterates the purpose of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action,

Noting that climate resilience, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3, 6, 7, and 13 mentioned in General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015), “Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,”

Recalling the importance of collaboration between countries as highlighted in the 2015 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction,

Acknowledging the need for renewable energy throughout Asia and the Pacific, as put forth in the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, to seek continued use of hydroelectric, solar, wind, and geothermal resources, and purport the improvement and sustainability of hydroelectric energy amongst Member States while recognizing these innovative energy sources as viable ways of providing electricity to rural communities,

Deeply concerned by the ongoing threat posed by changing weather patterns to vulnerable economic sectors such as agriculture, while emphasizing the need for an increased focus on promoting and funding of sustainable economic initiatives,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 71/222 (2016) “International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development, 2018 – 2028,” in which Member States agreed on committing to implement the framework of the International Decade for Action on Water for Sustainable Development (2018- 2028), to address rising sea levels and salinization of aquifers,

Further recalling Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) resolution 72/6 (2016) “Fostering Regional Cooperation and Partnerships to Respond to the Climate Change Challenge in the Asia-Pacific Region,”

Affirming ESCAP resolution 74/16 (2018) “Technology Outlook for Sustainable Development” incorporates information and communication for climate resilience initiatives,

Realizing the detrimental effects extreme weather patterns and the effects it has on nations with approximately 160 million people affected by disasters every year world-wide,


Emphasizing the importance of Sustainable Development Goal 13, target 1, in strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in every country,
Further emphasizing the importance of inclusivity involving indigenous peoples in information sharing techniques such as finding and creating ways to build climate resilience as outlined in General Assembly resolution 61/321 (2007) United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Keeping in mind the World Health Assembly resolution A63/27 (2010) “Climate Change and Health” to advocate and raise awareness of the health sectors impact on the environment,

Recognizing the lives of people that small islands and rural areas are more vulnerable to the devastating effects of changes in weather patterns, such as rising sea levels, we call for Member States to enact databases to promote climate resiliency,

1. **Invites** Member States to prepare and revise a self-managed national climate action plan consisting of possible areas of interventions to be taken via the government, private corporations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as The Green Climate Fund, and the citizens;

2. **Expresses its hope** that Member States will work towards promoting the improvement of abundant and thriving renewable energy sources such as hydropower, solar power, wind power, and geothermal power by:
   a. Investing in renewable energy projects in developing Member States;
   b. Encouraging small businesses and households to install solar power systems through a feed-in tariff system;
   c. Sharing information and technological expertise by implementing exchange programs to educate and train personnel on setting up and maintaining sustainable plants;

3. **Supports** Member States investment to enact small scale biogas and biofuel programs that encourage rural populations to process organic waste into biogas to provide electricity to the local communities and advocate for self-sufficiency in working towards climate resilience;

4. **Calls upon** Member States to encourage outside private investment at local and national levels in renewable energy by:
   a. Providing tax incentives and financial subsidies to private companies for importing machinery capable or renewable energy production;
   b. Establishing community centered facilities that foster future financial investments into renewable alternatives;

5. **Recommends** the sharing of information referencing all past and active water management projects between Member States with the aim of:
   a. Facilitating the proliferation of water desalination projects;
   b. Sharing research findings to disseminate the best possible practices across the region;
   c. Identifying sources of funding for said projects;
   d. Assisting local farmers to implement efficient practices that encourage self-sufficiency and financial stability when faced with the issue of farmland (subsidies, relocation of farms, and restoration of salinized farmlands);

6. **Encourages** multilateral support between Member States and private entities involved in the management of drinkable water in order to achieve efficient management of infrastructure to support water security;
7. *Urges* developed Member States to aid in the technological advancements of developing Member States by assisting them with more modernized equipment such as forecasting systems and advanced meteorology to prepare effectively for potentially catastrophic events;

8. *Endorses* providing internet access to small-island developing states (SIDS) in order to further their access to climate resilience practices:
   - Utilizes energy with the expansion of the fiber optic cable system through the funding of the Asia-Pacific Superhighway Project;
   - Encourage expansion of the already utilized fiber optic system will assists in connecting SIDS with the needed internet and technology to their climate resilience through the increase of awareness with information sharing;
   - Affirms funding needs will be low cost, as there are already 420 Fiber Optic cables established and the extensions required to reach SIDS is limited where:
     - Utilizing internet allows for essential disaster information to be spread;
     - Connecting SIDS to larger developed states allowing SIDS to utilize developed states meteorological systems;
     - Allowing for the spreading of information such as climate resilience techniques and education;

9. *Requests* ESCAP collaborate with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)’s Nationally Determined Contributions Support Program, guided by the UN Institution for Training and Research’s Green Development and Climate Change Programme to enhance availability of climate resilience information by:
   - Implementing the existing National Action Plan (NAP) in Asia-Pacific Member States;
   - Suggest the Committee on Statistics improve data availability for Member States and enact effective evidence-based decisions on the matter of climate resilience;

10. *Recommends* that Member States enhance cooperation with the United Nations Institute for Training and Researching, in order to:
    - Increase human capacity and experts in states, especially in innovative space applications that strengthen the use of geospatial data for multi-hazard early warning systems in order to create an efficient climate resilient system;
    - Strengthen access to and use of space-based data to promote climate resilience initiatives in the most vulnerable locations such as coastal cities and rural communities;

11. *Iterates* that the utilization of internet allows for essential disaster information to be spread due to:
    - Allowing for the spreading of information such as climate resilience techniques and education;
    - Connecting SIDS to larger developed states allowing SIDS to utilize developed states meteorological systems;
    - The ability to transmit varying educational information such as agriculture, clean energy practice, and weather warning systems;
12. Encourages the strengthening of regional databases to encourage disaster information gathering and sharing to provide Member States and respective citizens with climate resilience data in order to allow for the implementation of Early Warning Systems facilitating strategies for climate resilience;

13. Strongly supports implementing framework based off existing policies of the Association of Southeastern Asian Nations for the cooperation of private sectors in promoting innovation and technology with particular consideration for opportunities given to women working towards climate resilience;

14. Endorses Member States to enact respective national climate resilience policies that pertain to their own national interests in response to disasters, based on the NAP database, collaborating with actors such as United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Environmental Emergencies Centre which uses external support to help aid environmental emergencies;

15. Intends to facilitate already existing Information and Communication Technologies and platforms for information sharing in indigenous native languages to promote inclusivity by utilizing existing community infrastructure in order to provide them the tools, technology, and information to build resilience;

16. Encourages ESCAP to collaborate with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs to create a workshop for indigenous people that:
   a. Will promote the gathering and sharing of ideas, experiences, and access to information;
   b. Takes place every two years in order to provide timely accurate information;
   c. Transmits information that builds awareness and provides protection from changing climate;
   d. Will consult with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

17. Encourages the development of a database focusing on best practice sharing methods and strategies for the protection of human health risks that come along with changes in weather patterns headed by the UNDP Nationally Determined Contribution Support Programme in collaboration with World Health Organization, to improve the adaptation capacity of healthcare systems in Asia and the Pacific that are vulnerable to weather change induced diseases by:
   a. Reducing negative impacts of changes in weather patterns by equipping healthcare personnel and the wider population with any necessary medical supplies, courses, or personnel to prevent detrimental effects of climate of Human Health;
   b. Cooperating with OCHA to utilize grassroot connections between local communities and NGOs of Member States that act as channels to assist in the distribution of information and further strengthen the efficiency of this developing database;
   c. Requesting the Asian Infrastructure Bank (AIIB) and Asian Development Bank to fund this operation.
The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015) entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, emphasizing its focuses on climate action, sustainable cities and communities, and life on land,

Noting with satisfaction the success that the Paris Agreement (2015) has had with combating climate change and the role that Nationally Determined Contributions have on promoting climate resilience within the Asia-Pacific region,

Recognizing the increasing demand for agriculture to feed a larger and more urbanized population over the next 40 years, as noted by the United Nations Environment Programme’s report on Smallholders, Food Security, and the Environment,

Acknowledging with deep gratitude the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), notably Articles 2 and 7, which call attention to promoting equal opportunity before the law combating any form of discrimination, and has been extended upon as in such resolutions as General Assembly resolution 72/207 (2017), “Improvement of the Situation of Women and Girls in Rural Areas,”

Cognizant of the centuries-long contributions indigenous peoples have made to their communities through the care of the land as well as the valuable knowledge indigenous peoples possess in regards to regional agriculture,

Observing the important role of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) resolution 73/6 (2017) entitled “Implementation of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Initiative through Regional Cooperation” which has furthered the process of regional connectivity and cooperation, with the goal of continuing the empowerment of ESCAP Member States through greater access to the internet and other informational tools,

Emphasizing the need for communication and readily available technology, such as internet-based databases and radio transmissions, in small, rural, and/or isolated regions, as well as offering tailored assistance to Small Island Developing States (SIDS), as relates to concerns with farming and agriculture in Pacific regions,

Encouraged by the success of initiative programs such as the World Food Program’s (WFP) R4-Rural Resilience Initiative and the International Finance Corporation’s Global Agricultural and Food Security Program in harnessing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting that investment in female-owned agriculture enterprise has the potential to reduce global hunger by up to 150 million people, as per the Food and Agriculture Association of the United Nations (FAO) report on the State of Food and Agriculture (2015),

Affirming the declaration of the 2019-2028 United Nations Decade of Family Farming and its recognition of the need to support smallholder farms,
Noting the significance of microfinance in reducing poverty and promoting financial inclusion, as outlined in ESCAP Development Paper No. 27 entitled *Microfinance for Poverty Reduction: Building Inclusive Financial Sectors in Asia and the Pacific*,

Reiterating the principles of respect for cultural identity and traditional knowledge, as well as the need for gender equality in agriculture outlined in the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas* (2018), which promotes sustainable practices such as crop rotation and equal access to land without discrimination,

Taking note of the United Nation Development Programme’s (UNDP) Green Commodities Programme undertaking sustainable agricultural production and practices in less developed regions,

Recognizing the importance of gender and differing cultural perspectives in all aspects of climate resilience including the preparation and implementation of climate resilience policies, as outlined in the report published by UNDP on *Ensuring Gender-Responsive Climate Change Adaptation* (2016),

Noting appreciation of the WFP’s Food Assistance for Assets initiative, and its positive impact on 10 million people in 52 countries, rehabilitation of 137,000 hectares of land, and the planting of 5,220 hectares of forest,

Alarmed by the fact that two-thirds of the population of the Asia and the Pacific region lack access to enough food and the linkage between climatic shocks or disasters and food security and nutrition as noted in *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World* as published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO),

1. Calls upon Member States to overcome the disunion that exists between governmental bodies at the local, provincial, and national levels through streamlined communications and greater policy dialogue in order to promote increased coordination in the creation and implementation of climate resilience policies;

2. Commends the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as a framework for managing and analyzing climate-related data for the purposes of hazard-mapping, urban and rural planning, and enhancing National Action Plans, to be achieved through:
   a. Utilizing high-resolution satellite imagery collected by Member States to be distributed to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and SIDS to be managed through the ESCAP Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development;
   b. Encouraging financial assistance from Member States in the establishment of climate-management systems that employ GIS technology;
   c. Technical assistance and training workshops for operational staff in SIDS and LDCs, such as those working in National Weather Services and local governments, through collaboration with UN bodies such as the Institute for Training and Research;

3. Encourages Member States to maximize agricultural yield, preserve geographical terrain, and maintain optimum biodiversity through conservation farming and Sustainable Land Management to be achieved by:
   a. Developing plans for crop rotation in collaboration with farm owners, taking into account the indigenous crops and bio-culture of each region;
   b. Working with farmers to implement strategies to reduce soil erosion and disruption, including:
      i. Reducing unnecessary soil disruption due to tillage;
      ii. Maintaining prior crop residue;
iii. Growing cover crops;

4. *Suggests* Member States look to create a dialogue with indigenous groups for the sharing and implementation of indigenous knowledge and practices on sustainable farming through:
   a. Acknowledging Member States’ regional environmental differences, and as such, those different practices are best adapted for each specific ecosystem;
   b. Cooperation with indigenous groups to implement green solutions and practices through greater consultation with indigenous groups to facilitate the exchange of knowledge;

5. *Supports* the facilitation of the R4-Rural Resilience Initiative and related programs which work towards the development of rural regions both sustainably and economically in:
   a. Incentivizing the use of sustainable farming methods through monetary aid to rural farmers from WFP and regional non-governmental organizations (NGOs);
   b. Expanding local and domestic markets by providing financial opportunities to farmers through increased risk management, access to insurance, and investment programs;
   c. The shortening of supply chains through the development of rural markets and localizing the transportation of goods to further decrease greenhouse gas emissions;

6. *Invites* Member States to establish Plans of Action, consistent with the work of FAO, to support smallholding farmers by the means of:
   a. Entrepreneurial training and investment programs directed by FAO in collaboration with local governments, enabling smallholding farmers to expand from subsistence agriculture to economically profitable agro-businesses;
   b. Informational forums in partnership with ESCAP’s Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization for farm owners regarding economically sustainable practices in a community setting;

7. *Urges* Member States to address the recognized correlation between food security and climate shocks by providing food assistance policies, such as food stamps or subsidies to farmers with the aim of increasing food and land preservation and to further actions towards building climate-resilient communities;

8. *Further supports* the expansion of microfinance loans provided by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)’s Green Climate Fund (GCF) within Member States to promote financial inclusion and ensure that communities with livelihoods dependent on agricultural economies are protected, to be achieved by:
   a. Utilizing the operational and technical expertise of Member States to reduce administrative obstacles within domestic microfinance institutions in order to increase the outreach of these institutions;
   b. Integrating climate monitoring and forecasting technologies, including the use of GIS, to the operational planning of microfinance institutions to account for the impact of climate change-related hazards on the financial needs of rural communities;

9. *Urges* the sharing and publication of new developing technologies related to farming and agriculture processes to increase the accessibility and efficiency of farming practices through the spread of knowledge by:
a. Publishing development processes related to farming and agriculture practices under the MIT public domain license which would allow for other Member States and individuals to use these advancements with only the permission of the inventor;

b. Lowering the cost of agricultural equipment and technology by removing patents and copyright obstructions using the previously mentioned MIT license, notably aiding agriculturally reliant developing Member States;

c. Promoting the dissemination of agricultural information and accelerating the rate of communications to rural communities through extant radio telecommunications and internet efforts, either in conjunction or separately, particularly to the benefit of smallholder farmers;

d. Continued support of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway in order to strengthen lines of communication to rural communities into the future;

10. Recommends Member States work to create Positive Investment Environments within their domestic economies, whereby policy recommendations can be implemented to incentivize investment in the field of climate-resilient infrastructure and green technology, to be achieved by encouraging:

a. Collaboration with the GCF to help with infrastructure and programs financed through grants, loans, guarantees and equity in order to reach goals of both mitigation and adaptation;

b. Use of Public-Private Partnerships;

c. Implementation of tax incentives, such as subsidies, for investors funding climate-resilient infrastructure and green technologies;

d. Cooperation with multilateral development banks and climate funds to assist with funding of climate-resilient infrastructure and green technologies;

e. Strengthening local, provincial, and national regulation to facilitate the implementation of climate resilience projects, such as better enforcement of existing climate change legislation or by embedding climate change considerations into multiple existing sectoral policies;

f. Budgeting for climate adaptation as part of capital improvement projects such as through including the UNDP’s Climate Budget Tagging tool, used for monitoring and tracking of climate-related expenditures in the national budget system;

g. Continuing to support the collection by Member States of current economic data such as risk, cost, and rate of return to be provided to green investors, in order to facilitate better financial forecasting and decrease investment risks;

h. Collaboration with the ESCAP Regional Climate Action Agenda to assist in the development of climate resilience projects, involving government and business leadership, including funding mechanisms to guide, incentivize, protect, and promote public and private investments while maintaining regional economic integrity;

11. Requests the Executive Secretary to provide a report on the implementation of rural involvement programs and on the implementation of sustainable agriculture to promote climate resilience.
The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Taking into account the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Article 4, as well as Article 4 of the 2015 Paris Agreement, which focuses on promoting and co-operating in the development and process of control in regards to forestry, agriculture, and the threat of climate change in the terms of sustainable development and climate resilience,

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially targets 13.2, 13.3, 13.A, and 13B, which advocate for climate resilience through climate change education programs, nationwide policies, funding for climate adaptation, and the inclusion of minority groups in climate planning,

Cognizant of the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda, calling for stronger focus on Sustainable Development Goals, like SDG 4 and SDG 5 which focus on the right to education and empowerment of women worldwide, while also bearing in mind the commitment to consistent international financing,

Underlining ESCAP resolution 71/12 on “Strengthening regional mechanisms for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Asia and the Pacific” and the 2018 Report of the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, which seek to strengthen regional mechanisms in order to implement the 2015 Sendai Declaration Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for the purposes of promoting technical assistance and capacity building in less developed sub-regions of Asia and the Pacific,

Bearing in mind the 2018 Ministerial Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Energy Transition Toward Sustainable and Resilient Societies in Asia and the Pacific to overcome potential challenges in pursuit of Sustainable Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which addresses infrastructure gaps to ensure environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable infrastructure development,

Noting with approval the 2014 G20 Brisbane Summit on the Global Infrastructure Project Pipeline, which highlights ensuring an open-source project pipeline database in order to connect national and multilateral development bank databases with potential investors for projects,

Recalling further the United Smart Cities program, which was initiated by Economic Commission for Europe and other industrial partners, focusing on urban mobility, sustainable housing, clean energy, waste management, and information and communication technologies,

Fully supporting Momentum for Change: Women for Results program, which enables greater agency to women in leadership and strengthens the role of women in climate change decision-making processes,

Recognizing the necessity of climate resilience, or the capacity of social and economic Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) development and institutions when dealing with impacts of climate change and observing the essential role of educating women to transition to climate resilience, as women in developing areas are more likely to exercise unhealthy cooking practices according to SDG 1.4.1.,
Noting further that the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative (ND-GAIN) Index, an index that summarizes a country’s vulnerability to climate change, and other global challenges, is an applicable measure to calculate a Member State’s vulnerability to climate change in regard to climate resilience.

Emphasizing the necessity of comprehensive Early Warning Systems (EWS) such as GIS and the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway in gathering, managing and analyzing data which promote climate resilience, particularly in strengthening their application for Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Reiterating the necessity of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education as the sentiments put forth by the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979), which adopts policies that promote gender equality, which will inherently promote climate resilience through knowledge that is useful to women.

Acknowledging that a Population-Health-Environment, which aims to improve environmental health through a consideration of several populace factors, is an integrated community-based approach to development that can be applied in the context of climate resilience to analyze the interconnections between familial, health, and environmental factors.

Taking into consideration the fundamental role women have in a wide range of activities including responsibility of food production, processing, distribution and water supplying, as well as their work in the informal sector such as domestic servants, particularly in rural or developing areas, and the importance of women’s education in building climate resilience.

Recognizing the social status of women in many communities is related to access to water supply, agriculture, and food processing, while acknowledging that women tend to be in the role of educating their children is evidence of the need for their education in terms of climate resilience.

Emphasizing that 10 out of 16 countries in the Asia-Pacific area, 80% of students reach the minimum levels of proficiency in reading and mathematics, while in the remaining six states only between 31% and 49% reached the minimum standard in mathematics, while between 45% to 63% reached the minimum standard in reading.

Cognizant of the fact that women-led micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) are growing across the Asia-Pacific region and are successfully implemented in Member States such as Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Myanmar, Nepal, Samoa, and Viet Nam,

1. Fully supports the utilization of the 2014 SAMOA Pathway in promoting climate resilience within the Asia-Pacific Region, more specifically through:
   a. Strengthening the bonds of cooperation in identifying and addressing at-risk areas by facilitating the creation of durable partnerships connecting the local population to subnational levels of government, emphasizing the role of marginalized groups;
   b. Locally feasible coastal management practice projects, such as the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization’s Sandwatch Vision Initiative, to combat the consequences of climate change and uphold the livelihoods of those living in at-risk habitable regions;

2. Recommends Member States enact comprehensive programs that economically incorporate women into the process of transitioning to renewable energy, with a specific focus on sustainability, in order to ensure access to economic opportunities, such as entrepreneurial pursuits or clean jobs, that will lift women in rural areas out of poverty and grant them financial agency by:
   a. Educating women in rural communities on how to use sustainable and clean energy sources such as affordable solar lights and water filters to reduce unhealthy cooking practices, to improve air quality and health in their communities;
b. Encouraging women to share sustainable cooking technology through working with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that work to end poverty by empowering local communities;

c. Promoting Member States to create financial incentives such as tax-exempt statuses for companies to hire women in sustainable energy industries;

3. **Insists** ESCAP Member States create an educational framework demonstrating climate risks through engaging public dialogue with local communities to raise awareness about sustainable water practices in order to promote and allow local participation in decision-making processes concerning climate resilience measures, therefore:

   a. Granting greater agency to local populations, notably rural and indigenous, when developing programs and infrastructure in these territories;

   b. Establishing constant consultation of scientific knowledge and local input of areas and populations in which these programs are to be implemented, as per Articles 7.5 and 7.6 of the 2015 Paris Agreement;

4. **Encourages** Member States to cooperate with NGOs to ensure access to education for vulnerable groups, like youth and women, on natural disaster preparation to ensure public safety for at-risk regions and disaster-prone areas through:

   a. Enacting programs in public schools, such as tsunami warning drills and after-school programs, that teach students and instructors how to act in hazardous situations, and to increase interest and sensibility from the future generation about climate change by gathering together multilateral approaches and traditional methods of teaching;

   b. Allowing increased educational opportunities for girls and women through suggesting minimum female percentages in local schools to give them more independence and agency in areas where they can enact change toward climate resilience;

   c. Working with NGOs to establish public databases that provide easily accessible information about disaster-prone area indexes and at-risk maps, designed to educate the population on the geography of natural disasters, and conduct training classes weekly on the community level about local EWS for natural disasters;

5. **Encourages** the expansion of the Asia-Pacific Super Highway Project in connecting ESCAP Member States which will enable greater information transfers regarding educational practices between Member States and vulnerable disconnected groups;

6. **Urges** Member States to recognize the importance of how investing in girls’ education will influence climate change adaptation, resilience, and mitigation by noting that every year a girl is in school, her Member State’s resilience to climate disasters is expected to increase by 3.2 points as per the ND-GAIN Index;

7. **Invites** governments to provide more training on how to access their local warning and EWS for upcoming climate-related disasters, in the ways of:

   a. Providing access to after-school programs, with external supervisors helping as volunteer teachers and additional materials, and divide after-school programs into two different sessions, one for students from ages 6 to 12 and the other for students from 12 to 18;
b. Such after-school programs will stimulate interest and sensitivity toward issues like climate change, should focus on more traditional lessons, and increase involvement through a multilateral approach;

c. Reaffirming the necessity of leadership and management courses to provide a safe space for girls and women, and allow for increased educational opportunities that will give them more independence;

d. Reaching out for local NGOs’ assistance for human resources, to conduct training classes weekly at a community level about local EWS for natural disasters;

8. Invites local governments to suggest funding for applications on smartphones to disseminate information about the importance and the need for disaster early warning applications and climate-resilient data on smartphones such as Disaster Alert through:

   a. Recommending the development of a portion of the app to disseminate information that uses preventative measures in relation to disaster;

   b. Reaching out for sharing of existing climate data and information through cooperation from local governments and NGOs to guide people on how to better adapt to the changing climate through alerts and articles;

   c. Encouraging the creation of climate-resilient information that guide people through alerts and articles on how to better adapt to the changing climate;

   d. Recommending the use of two-way radio to relay the information for those without access to smartphones;

9. Encourages Member States to prioritize women and girls into STEM fields must also be correlated to green-sector career pathways by:

   a. Utilizing the UN Girls’ Education Initiatives UN Ivy STEM Connect Program to develop girls’ life skills for a sustainable green economy by promoting participation of women in STEM;

   b. Learning how to maintain green technology at a local level in order to develop sustainable climate-resilient mechanisms at a national and regional level;

   c. Supplementary meetings and lessons in schools that raise awareness about the potential role of women with the aim of guaranteeing women an effective and accurate response to climate disasters, making them less affected by climate change while improving climate resilience, and helping them to achieve a primary role when it comes dealing with and responding to natural hazards;

10. Calls for the education of young women through localized NGO-operated programs that focus on STEM education, and considering that some women are particularly effective in creating avenues for climate resilience within their communities by:

   a. Endorsing the use of local and regional NGOs in order to promote region specific education that will lead to better understanding of climate change;

   b. Adapting the use of pre-existing curriculum as suggested by General Assembly resolution 70/212 on “International Day of Women and Girls in Science” which was put in place to give women a chance to be educated, in order to create an avenue to allow women to learn about locally adapted crops that are more likely to withstand climate change;
11. **Recommends** Population-Health-Environment-based organizations, specialized agencies and funds to recognize women's reproductive health as a method to develop, implement and achieve population-based climate change adaptation and mitigation;

12. **Endorses** Member States to allow for the creation of banking institutions in rural areas to facilitate the safekeeping and saving of money among women, which would enable more financial freedom and a heightened status socially and economically by:

   a. Encouraging the idea of micro-loans from these banks, to allow for women in rural areas to have access to resources to realize their innovative ideas in finding new sustainable opportunities detaching them from their traditional roles;

   b. Strongly suggesting these previously mentioned banks to charge minimum fees in order to foster new economic growth and climate resilience;

13. **Utilize** existing channels of finance, such as the women-led MSMEs, to increase the level of capital available for women-specific projects for the purposes of:

   a. Promoting empowerment and ownership within the Asia and Pacific region through increased participation in civil society;

   b. Incentivizing climate-resilient enterprises in order to achieve sustainable and equitable climate-resilient solutions and policy frameworks;

   c. Expanding the objectives and operations of the ESCAP and UN Capital Development Fund’s Women MSME Fintech Innovation Fund to facilitate technical assistance, mentorship and early stage co-funding to begin and promote individual climate-resilient solutions;

   d. Encouraging developed Member States to provide more direct capital investment in order to facilitate women's empowerment;

14. **Directs attention** to the need for investment in girls' education in order to foster climate participation and leadership, as it is urgently needed for Member States within the Asia and Pacific region, where this can be achieved via:

   a. Building networks at a national level to connect young girls with women in positions of leadership;

   b. Promoting the importance of women in leadership as an area of priority in rural areas of Member States;

15. **Recommends** increasing cooperation between local public entities to seek out private partnerships through the encouraged expansion of the Global Infrastructure Private Project Pipeline to include Least Developed Countries from Asia and the Pacific;

16. **Encourages** Member States to welcome and incentivize private companies, and/or NGOs to invest in urban infrastructure, sustainable housing, clean energy, waste management, gender-inclusive education and information and communication technologies (ICTs) in city development toward smart city technology, especially in coastal cities, offering opportunities, for all genders, to accelerate energy efficiency in urban development;

17. **Further encourages** the funding of resilient infrastructure in developing states and vulnerable populations, through the aid of developed states, as per indicated in Article 9.1 and 9.2 of the 2015 *Paris Agreement*;
18. Encourages ESCAP Member States to protect freshwater in SIDS, as rising sea levels, present a significant threat of freshwater contamination and waste, through the implementation of granting agency to women in freshwater management, especially in rural communities, and therefore directly promoting SDG 6 by:

a. Conducting targeted research programs which will evaluate affected Member States’ current freshwater standards in order to - develop distinct educational programs with a focus on women and girls with the goal to preserve and reduce the waste of freshwater, as well as adjust urban development in reducing the pollution of freshwater supplies, and allocate specific funding to maintain water management practices to either physical infrastructure or education;

b. Encouraging advancements in protecting Member States’ existing water supplies with freshwater lenses, protecting natural bodies of freshwater, pursuing preventative water storage measures, advancing water recycling and upkeep of infrastructure;

19. Urges multilateral innovation to build and renew the man-made and natural sea and water barriers pertaining to conservation practices that are compatible with maintaining biodiversity and availability of water resources, while simultaneously protecting coastlines from deterioration and local populations from flooding linked to rising sea levels by:

a. Reducing rates of deforestation, as trees anchor fertile soil and prevent extensive soil erosion;

b. Adapting to rising sea levels through climate-resilient infrastructure projects such as the construction of coastal wall, the raising of soil beds along coastlines, and the implementation of community-based soil-anchoring tree planting projects, such as the planting of mangrove trees in coastal tropical and subtropical habitats;

20. Encourages collaboration and dialogue between associations and NGOs concerning agriculture and those that work with women, in order to allow them to better cope with climate change and the new challenges it poses, by means of:

a. Increasing women’s expertise and technical expertise in the field;

b. Encouraging the sharing of technical knowledge among rural communities;

c. Training local populations with technical skills necessary, in conjunction with the implementation of climate-resilient measures, to promote community climate resilience especially in the rural agriculture sector;

21. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission.