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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Committee Staff

Director	Catherine Tomczyk
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Chair	Till Staschko

Agenda

1. Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific
2. Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
ESCAP/1/1	Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific	Adopted without a recorded vote
ESCAP/1/2	Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific	Adopted without a recorded vote
ESCAP/1/3	Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific	Adopted without a recorded vote
ESCAP/1/4	Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific	Adopted without a recorded vote
ESCAP/2/1	Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific	Adopted without a recorded vote
ESCAP/2/2	Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific	Adopted without a recorded vote
ESCAP/2/3	Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific	Adopted with 21 in favor, four against, and nine abstentions.

Summary Report

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

1. Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific
2. Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific

The session was attended by representatives of 30 Member States.

On Monday, the committee adopted its agenda and began discussing “Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific.” By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of four proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics, including the improvement of healthcare in the context of the expanded riskscape, educational and scientific exchange programs to share knowledge and enable communication on disaster risk reduction, the development of global early warning systems for fast responses to occurring disasters, and increased resilience in new and current infrastructure. The delegates worked hard and efficiently during these first sessions and made an effort to include as many ideas as possible in their working papers. On Wednesday, four resolutions were adopted, all by acclamation. The committee then began discussion on “Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific.”

On Thursday, discussion continued, and four proposals were developed concerning cooperative global warning systems, affordable healthcare for workers, and knowledge-sharing platforms. The committee ultimately adopted three resolutions, one of which had an unfriendly amendment, and two of which were adopted by without a recorded vote. Overall, the delegates worked cooperatively to find agreement on both topics.



Code: ESCAP/1/1

Committee: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Topic: Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Noting with concern the economic, social, and environmental crisis that will be brought about by the climate crisis and human-expedited natural disasters, especially as it relates to the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region,

Taking into account vulnerable groups' disproportionate exposure to climate-related threats, in accordance with the UN's definition of youth, disabled, elderly, indigenous, refugee, and displaced persons,

Noting that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) defines people with disabilities as anyone with impairments or barriers that hinder their full and equal participation in society,

Considering the multitude of Member States simultaneously being exposed to the climate crisis and human-expedited natural disasters, including floods, landslides, and dust storms, the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) found that 80 percent of people impacted by climate disasters reside in the APAC region,

Upholding Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and its goal of ensuring and protecting the right to a standard of living adequate for health and well-being,

Desiring a means to bridge the climate crises and human-expedited natural disasters' disproportionate impact on populations within resource-limited regions, and the necessity to provide imperative medical aid, with low-income APAC nations experiencing rates of 1.1 doctors per 1,000 people, as reported by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, compared to the World Health Organization's (WHO) global average of 2.5 doctors per 1,000 people,

Reaffirming Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3, 10, 11, 13, 17 towards ensuring further cooperation in the continued assessment of the ramifications of the climate crisis and human-expedited natural disasters through promoting education, health, and economic stability,

Realizing the usefulness of the Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme's Source-Pathway-Receptor model, which includes widening drains and canals leading to a reservoir to alleviate flood accumulation from the source, therefore combating the catastrophic effects of climate-based disasters by constructing preventative infrastructure within the Asian-Pacific region,

Acknowledging the importance of NGO SOURCE, which works with national governments to facilitate North-South, South-South, and Public-Private-Partnerships for investment in climate infrastructure,

Seeking greater awareness about how misinformation affects addressing global issues of the climate crises and human-expedited natural disasters, as discussed in the 2017 Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Ministers Responsible for Information's (AMRI) Roundtable Discussion on Fake News and Communicating the Right Information while following the model of the Core Values on Digital Literacy for ASEAN program,

Acknowledging the positive economic and social impacts of investing in the local workforce, as seen through programs such as the Pacific Australia Labor Mobility (PALM) and its advances to fill labor gaps

within one of nine Pacific small island states to provide their workforce with growing opportunity as well as the Tuvalu Trust Fund (TTF) created by Australia, the United Kingdom and New Zealand, which provides a source of revenue to ensure the long term viability for the government of Tuvalu,

Regarding the lack of accessibility of Early Warning Systems (EWS) in the APAC region across different dimensions, the International Labor Organization (ILO) reports that EWS activated 24 hours in advance reduce the damage incurred by climate hazards by up to 30 percent, while those without comprehensive EWS technology experience 600% higher mortality rates according to the UNDRR's report on The Status of Early Warning Systems,

Reminding Member States of the progress made towards equitable digital connectivity in the APAC region by the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (AP-IS) and the AP-IS Action Plan for 2022-2026,

Welcoming all Member States to attend and contribute their ideas in the upcoming conferences, including the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR), to accelerate progress in combating the expanded riskscape in the region,

Recognizing the substantial efforts of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), such as Première Urgence Internationale and the Green Climate Fund, as leaders in regional campaigns that combat the dire effects of climate crises,

Noting the accomplishments of The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) ran the Sustainable Infrastructure Program in Asia (SIPA), which works to establish national policy as well as preventative architecture to combat natural disasters,

Bearing in mind the considerable work accomplished by various regional organizations within the APAC region, such as ASEAN, the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), the Pacific Disaster Center (PDC), and the Asian and Pacific Center for the Development of Disaster Information Management,

Taking into consideration the need to further fund, support, bolster, and build climate-resilient communities through collaboration to provide aid for Member States who are most at risk of the effects of climate crises and human-expedited natural disasters in adherence with the current notions set forth by E/ESCAP/RES/79/3,

Concerned that transnational institutes such as the Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster, and Climate Preparedness, Resilient Asia Program, the Australia Climate Financing Partnership (ACFP), and the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management are limited in their scope of assistance throughout the APAC region due to the lack of datasets,

1. *Encourages* Member States to work towards the allocation of resources for strengthening healthcare systems in resource-limited communities in the form of medical aid, medical equipment, and trained healthcare personnel, with a particular focus on addressing the health impacts of the climate crisis and human-expedited natural disasters including tsunamis, earthquakes, landslides, monsoons, floods, etc. by:
 - a. Supporting research initiatives and knowledge-sharing platforms to better understand the health impacts of climate change and natural disasters in the region;
 - b. Utilizing evidence-based research, APAC can provide policy decisions and interventions aimed at mitigating these impacts and strengthening healthcare systems;

- c. Encouraging the establishment of regional training centers and simulation facilities equipped with state-of-the-art medical equipment and technology to provide hands-on training and experiential learning opportunities for healthcare professionals to be best prepared for treating patients in disaster-prone areas pre and post-disaster;
 2. *Further encourages* fellow Member States to increase international cooperation in establishing relief while simultaneously maintaining their contributions to pre-existing mechanisms to:
 - a. Establish effective climate resilience partnerships throughout the Asia and Pacific region;
 - b. Create a collection of data tailored to the climate effects faced by the Asia and Pacific region that will be used to develop climate resilience solutions;
 - c. Expand its efforts throughout Asia and the Pacific region to create a greater collaborative network, allowing a greater amount of information flow between Member States and such entities, which will prove vital as they face similar threats;
 2. *Suggests* the creation of a smartphone application targeting the APAC region, aimed at enhancing reactivity on an individual level through an early warning apparatus and developed with the help of ADRC through:
 - a. The utilization of the PDC's existing Disaster Alert application;
 - b. The adoption of a warning system, sending out notification alert messages based on geolocation, to target people affected areas;
 - c. The implementation of an up-to-date feed, built on the model of the ADRC website, where climate change-related disasters are regularly reported;
 3. *Calls for* an emphasis on investing in local professionals, such as engineers, climate scientists, and humanitarian professionals, to develop disaster risk reduction methods, ensuring that local needs are being met by those who know the needs best so that:
 - a. Local jobs and economic growth can benefit from the investment;
 - b. Specialists will be capable of conducting research and maintaining these systems by creating workshops and meetings for their collaboration and training;
 - c. Economic growth is fostered at a local level;
 - d. Professionals are equipped with the skills necessary to combat and understand misinformation surrounding the climate crisis, as promoted by the Core Values on Digital Literacy ASEAN program;
 4. *Calls upon* Member States to develop EWS to inform individuals and enhance preparedness with a four-step approach through the usage of AP-IS based on but not limited to:
 - a. Mapping hazard probability through the analysis of disaster risk reduction information provided by the ESCAP DRR Subcommittee to contribute to the accuracy of the alerts sent to the regions affected by the possible upcoming disasters and the population's preparedness regarding natural hazards;

- b. Monitoring and forecasting the natural events through the usage of algorithms and data collected by the DRR Subcommittee to provide inclusive strategies that compelled specialized actions towards the region and natural requirements;
 - c. Broadcasting and transmitting information to the general public in high-alert zones of hazards by the usage of the massive communication channels with the Asian Broadcasting Union (ABU) to both rural and urban regions in comprehension of the Member States possibilities, such as television, radio, social media, short messages services (SMS), and other channels encouraging cross border partnership to ensure swift, consistent and clear information to people in the path of natural disasters;
 - d. Implementing mechanisms of action to prevent expanded consequences towards the APAC population, in alignment with the Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER);
5. *Suggests* that Member States expand accessibility to EWS with consideration for disability through:
- a. Member States' EWS is inclusive of local languages and methods of communication that are accessible, including but not limited to deaf, hard of hearing, and blind individuals, because according to the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), disabled populations are disproportionately affected by climate crises and human-expedited natural disasters;
 - b. Member States' collaboration with disabled people's organizations, such as the Pacific Disabilities Forum, is used to ensure that all aspects of Early Warning Systems and risk management are inclusive of those who cannot ensure their safety during times of disaster;
 - c. Member States working with the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact to ensure that DRR systems are built with the customs, languages, and location of indigenous peoples in mind;
6. *Suggests* Member States further the creation and construction of preventative infrastructure measures for climate-based disasters, such as draining systems and flood prevention, including the joint Myanmar and UN-REDD Myanmar Mangroves program, through:
- a. Furthering research and development on effective construction and implementation of preventive infrastructure, such as the Source-Pathway-Receptor approach taken by Singapore;
 - b. Working alongside the SIPA to further develop preventative national policy and infrastructure while also encouraging the expansion of SIPA to encompass more Member States;
 - c. Implementing exercise-coordinated response times within willing Member States consisting of various civilian organizations at both local and regional levels, such as the Asian Disaster Prevention Center (ADPC), to confront a natural disaster, which would include simulated aftermath situations;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of early detection systems related to the climate crises and human-expedited natural disasters so that Member States continue:
 - a. Sharing information gathered to create a regional database for further use in predicting future disasters and the creation of early warning systems;
 - b. Collaborating with the UN's Early Warnings for All initiative, specifically the World Meteorological Organization Information System Program, to ensure that all Member States are informed about possible incoming natural disasters;
8. *Recommends* that Member States continue to foster the cooperation between NGOs and Member States through:
 - a. Humanitarian cooperation such as prevention as well as immediate and long-term after-care regarding natural disasters in the region;
 - b. Funding-existing domestic government DRR budgets with additional technical support from NGOs, such as the SOURCE Sustainability platform, which facilitates partnerships among states and corporations to invest in green infrastructures;
 - c. Mediating cooperation to facilitate information flows to further existing databases, such as ACCEPT Phase II, a climate change research program and database headed by ASEAN, and increase the quality and efficiency of climate infrastructure;
9. *Reaffirms* its belief that in the face of the threats created by the climate crisis, Member States should further the mission of SDG 8 through supportive contributions such as:
 - a. Expanding on current contribution mechanisms created by Member States, such as ACFP;
 - b. Building investment initiatives to reach more Member States and communities and ensuring these investments reach fair and just economic initiatives.



Code: ESCAP/1/2

Committee: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Topic: Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Stresses its desire to further develop regional educational programs concerning disaster risk reduction preparedness,

Mindful of the World Bank Program for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Developing Countries and its expansion of emergency preparedness knowledge in rural regions,

Noting also Japan's Ministry of Education Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) and its technological education expansion,

Taking into consideration the United States of America's Youth Emergency Preparedness Curriculum, which provides education regarding natural disasters and emergencies,

Gravely concerned that more than 140 disasters hit the Asia-Pacific region in 2023, which resulted in more than 7,500 deaths and affecting 64 million people, as stated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) report Disaster Emergency (2023),

Appreciating the use of technology like the Pacific Disaster Center's Global Disaster Alert, which works in more than 70 countries providing as a Multi-Hazard Risk Decision Support System (MHRDSS),

Further deploring that in 2021, 32.6 million people were displaced due to poor disaster risk management, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) report Closing the Investment Gap for Risk Reduction in Asia-Pacific (2022),

Fully alarmed that 80% of the people living in the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are one meter above sea level, making them more vulnerable to being underwater, needing the necessary use of drones to create 3D maps because of the region structure,

Commending the efforts of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) in addressing the rampant lack of disaster-related mass communication means, highlighting their developments in radio and television formats,

Underlining the contributions that the Local Climate Adaptive Program (LoCAL) has made in sustainable disaster preparation techniques and funding across Asia and the Pacific,

Concerned with the lack of structuralized funding for the "Loss and Damage Fund" established during the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP) to aid Member States that are faced with the effects of climate change and expanding riskscales such as floods, droughts, and sea-level rise,

Fully aware of the efforts by the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank to develop more innovative climate financing solutions to the region combat climate change,

Believing in the work of the Sendai Framework (2015), which brought forth Making Cities Resilient 2030 and the resilience roadmap for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in relation to educating vulnerable cities,

defined by Technical Paper No. 2019/4 (2019) outlining separate tiers of risk, low, medium, and high-risk cities, of which a vulnerable city could be placed in, taking into account their population and geographical location, to be better prepared for natural disasters,

Acknowledging that 2022 resulted in 36 billion USD in economic damages, according to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), which many are a result of poor infrastructure, inequitably affecting developing states,

Highlighting that in the last few years, the Emergency Event Database (EM-DAT) recorded 387 natural hazards and disasters worldwide, resulting in the loss of 30,704 lives, furthermore affecting 185 million individuals, and resulted in economic losses totaling around 223.8 billion USD, although the UNDRR began a Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism (SEM) Action Plan 2024-2025 that's contributing to enhanced communication and coordination with regional, national and local DRR stakeholders there remains a lack of effectiveness at the outset of action plans attempting to manage disasters issues,

Fully aware of the inefficiencies regarding aid transportation due to unclear routes, conflict, and infrastructure damage during active natural disasters,

Alarmed by the lives lost due to lack of access to lifesaving aid such as food, water, and medical supplies due to stockpile inefficiencies,

1. *Invites* Member States to expand curriculum within their educational systems focused on access to emergency preparedness information, which will provide the next generation with the necessary skills and knowledge to combat disaster risk by:
 - a. Ensuring emergency preparedness, evacuation abilities, and reaction timing using the World Bank Program for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Developing Countries as a guide, focusing on rural areas and less industrialized communities;
 - b. Advancing an educational program similar to MEXT, which is devoted to technology and, more specifically, computer courses that will prepare new generations to deal with issues related to this ESCAP program in the framework of disaster risk reduction preparedness;
 - c. Adopting an initiative similar to the Youth Emergency Preparedness Curriculum that aims to prepare students from grades 1-12 with skills like disaster management through group activities, workshops, and classroom lectures;
2. *Recommends* Member States to model initiatives similar to Drone For Resilience by UNDP, which aims to utilize drones to create 3D maps of a region both pre and post-disaster, enabling the identification of disaster-prone areas to enhance emergency response planning and resilience against climate-induced disaster, mainly focusing on the rural area;
3. *Encourages* Member States to recreate and expand the use of the Web Application PDC: Global Disaster Alert worldwide, particularly in rural areas, to provide real-time alerts and coordination support for natural disasters globally by utilizing data from various sources to monitor hazard events and facilitate rapid response efforts among stakeholders by:
 - a. Working with local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in rural areas to provide access to the technology while focusing on fostering knowledge about information and communication technology;

- b. Utilizing future workshops to educate the people in rural environments to allow for a smooth transition to technological advancement;
4. *Further implores* Member States, regardless of technological development levels, to collaborate with the ABU in their pursuit of comprehensive and rapid communication regarding disaster prevention, warning systems, and relief through the implementation of connectivity and broadcasting networks such as short message services (SMS) and mass communication channels regarding:
 - a. Disaster prevention mechanisms in alignment with public partnerships such as the LoCAL that will communicate precautionary actions within Members States to utilize to ensure informative spaces in the Asian-Pacific region;
 - b. Warning systems focusing broadcasting efforts to maintain the regional population awareness regarding the usage of media, radio, television, news, and other informational systems to provide an anticipative knowledge and probability of action throughout the citizens of the region;
 - c. Relief communications, indicating the status of incoming recovery efforts over the means most accessible to the public, including SMS or radio transmissions, maintaining a reliable means of information with those affected;
5. *Suggests* recreating an initiative similar to the “Loss and Damage Fund” established during the COP27, which will be called the “Asian Disaster Recovery Fund” to fund disaster damages, especially in Asia and the Pacific region, in a way that developing countries prioritize Member States based of their priority needs which will be funded so that:
 - a. Member States are recommended to contribute 0.5 % of their GDP;
 - b. Organizations such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank contribute two million USD annually;
6. *Urges* Member States to further research pertaining to stronger, cheaper, and more effective infrastructure in cooperation with NGOs similar to the ADB to allow for more resilient infrastructure in high-risk zones, supporting developing states that receive inequitable economic damages from disaster hazards;
7. *Calls for* Member States to further implement the recommendation concerning Making Cities Resilient 2023 focusing on the resilience roadmap that is a part of the Sendai Framework to:
 - a. Educate and provide awareness to vulnerable cities about disaster risk;
 - b. Allowing for Member States to create policies, strategies, and planning to reduce the future impact of disasters by researching a system to fund a specific digital highway to share information regarding building inexpensive yet resilient infrastructure;
 - c. Establish an annual meeting for which specifics such as location and time should be discussed and delegated within the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to discuss and share effective strategies, programs, and policy in concerned to make cities more resilient to disaster hazards to provide a Specialized meeting in which local leadership of vulnerable cities should be included, leading the discussion;

8. *Recommends* Member States pursue the action plan initiated by the Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Center (DRMKC) in a regional collaboration between Member States inside the ACAP within the ESCAP program, listing Member States by their relation to specific disasters in a database to aid lower-income Member States that have a lack of experience to combat significant disaster hazards by:
 - a. Having each Member State relate itself to an issue due to a specific disaster with past experiences and provide experience and information regarding the specific disaster;
 - b. Inviting Member States to rise to assist other Member States that are experiencing the consequences of disaster hazards by providing their experience and knowledge to foster resilience in the Member State undergoing the time of need;
 - c. Providing region-specific programs to educate people of vulnerable countries that are exposed to a high risk of disaster hazard by means of cooperation with related countries that have experienced the disaster;
 - d. Creating categories that will be devoted to specific disaster hazards, including pandemics and disease outbreaks, humanitarian crises, technological disasters, environmental degradation, and economic and social crises;
9. *Suggests* that ESCAP Member States update preexisting national and international aid distribution plans to ensure that preexisting conflicts, transportation infrastructure issues, and damage caused by disasters do not block the distribution of aid during and after natural disasters by:
 - a. Initiating studies that will research the most efficient aid transportation routes in the event of any disasters, the results of said studies being up to member states to implement and made available to international aid organizations;
 - b. Encouraging Member States to update aid distribution routes with neighbors on an annual basis to account for developing situations such as conflicts, natural damage, and developing infrastructure issues;
 - c. Creating an annual meeting, for which specifics such as location and time should be discussed and delegated within ESCAP, to ensure aid distribution plans remain modern which will occur in a volunteering Member State and be controlled by the hosting Member State to take place in the first month of each year;
10. *Urges* Member States to invest in the expansion of existing stockpiles of essential aid, such as food, water, medical supplies, batteries, and other life-saving supplies, while efficiently modernizing said stockpiles by:
 - a. Working alongside the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to initiate annual studies to establish the types of aid each member state will need most urgently in the event of a natural disaster and how much should be prepared;
 - b. Recommending that Asian-Pacific Member States work bilaterally alongside ECOSOC and the UN Central Emergency Response Fund, ensuring that appropriate amounts of aid based on previously mentioned annual studies can be gathered annually.



Code: ESCAP/1/3

Committee: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Topic: Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Reaffirming the dedication to climate action from the 2015 Paris Agreement and the 2019 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Climate Promise, which supports less developed countries (LDCs) with enhancing their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to achieve long-term net zero emissions,

Deeply concerned with the effects of carbon emissions and unethical energy systems that cause detrimental climate disparities in the Asia Pacific,

Alarmed with the increasing temperatures of 0.20 degrees Celsius each decade, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) 2023 Annual Climate Report, which explains the influx of natural disasters that disproportionately affect the Asia Pacific (APAC) region,

Acknowledging the success of the United Nations Office of Disaster Risk Reduction's *Making Cities Resilient 2030* initiative (MCR2030) in building resilient cities,

Recognizing the danger of poor drainage systems and urban areas impacted by flooding events that are common in the APAC region,

Bearing in mind that rural communities need additional resources and support in climate resilience and disaster risk resilience,

Deeply disturbed by the fact that climate change is displacing Indigenous and marginalized communities at seven times the rate of the global population,

Fully believing in the success of regional climate mitigation partnerships such as the Australian Government Initiative Climate Resilient by Nature (CRxN), which advocates for projects that work with rural and indigenous communities to protect critical environmental ecosystems,

Noting with deep concern the economic loss of 65 billion USD from natural disasters within the APAC region in 2023, as reported by Aon's Climate and Catastrophe Report 2024,

Believes in the continued collaboration and cooperation of Member States and marginalized communities to reinforce the work of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 9 and 11,

Acknowledging indigenous communities and the traditions and culturally important lands at risk due to the continuously expanded riskscape, and acknowledging the successes of programs such as Accelerating Innovative Monitoring for Forests (AIM4Forests) to provide technological advances to these communities combating climate change and Climate Justice Resilience Fund (CJRF) to help fund projects such as these,

1. *Urges* Member States to commit to steady carbon emission reduction, domestically and regionally, to work towards carbon neutrality, including using renewable and alternative energy sources in place of nonrenewable and polluting practices:

- a. Increase initiatives in Member States to restore and conserve ecosystems within the region to reduce the mass production of carbon emissions in the Asia Pacific; Introduce incentives to gradually reconfigure Member States' current energy systems to holistic energy systems that replace hazardous systems such as coal and oil production; Strongly encourages Member States to gradually introduce various forms of ethical energy systems such as solar, wind, and hydropower;
 - b. Suggests Member States to work collaboratively with the UN Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) to finance ethical energy systems in the Asia Pacific;
2. *Recommends* Member States implement the Making Cities Resilient (MCR) 2030 initiative in their cities and utilize the three-stage roadmap to urban resilience;
3. *Strongly encourages* Member States to seek ways to domestically build climate resilience in rural communities by partnering with regional Intergovernmental Organizations (IGO) or nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) such as Border Green Team and Mahila Housing Sewa Trust;
4. *Recommends* Member States work with indigenous and rural communities in developing regional initiatives such as CRxN;
5. *Promotes* Member States to continue to follow the guidelines of the Paris Agreement, giving support to the net zero emissions mission by:
 - a. Furthering research in the field of nuclear energy to allow for further development while setting a focus on the implementation of inexpensive options to provide developing states;
 - b. Working bilaterally with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to establish a budget that can fund the development of green energy sources, such as nuclear energy, to support developing states;
6. *Calls upon* Member States to build resilient infrastructure and modernize current infrastructure to ensure that essential services, such as buildings, transit, and power and communication services, can withstand natural disasters through:
 - a. Modernizing current drainage systems to a dual drainage system, as outlined by Asian Development Banks publication Unflooding Asia;
 - b. Building sustainable and resilient infrastructure, such as permeable pavement and floodwalls in high-risk areas to reduce flooding;
7. *Supports* creating stronger connections between indigenous people alongside minority groups and Member States through continuous introduction of technology to these communities to analyze and monitor the effects of climate change and preserving the land and biodiversity by:
 - a. Expanding programs such as AIM4Forests launched by the Food and Agricultural of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Kingdom in 2023 to take place in more developing countries, and initiatives such as the Global Force Observation Initiative (GFOI) that can be utilized to monitor forests and greenhouse gasses;

- b. Collaborating with NGOs like Climate Justice Resilience Fund (CJRF) to help fund the technological advancements the Indigenous People would need.



Code: ESCAP/1/4

Committee: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Topic: Addressing the Expanded Riskscape in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Alarmed by Asia-Pacific's progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Agenda for 2030 is 14.4%, according to the 2023 Asia-Pacific SDG Progress Report,

Guided by the goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement and the existing efforts established in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction,

Viewing with appreciation the success of other conferences regarding communication, emergency preparation, and education, such as the East Asian Summit (EAS), Pacific Climate Change Center, and Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO),

Appreciating the success of the Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC) of the European Union (EU) in developing and innovating disaster risk response methodology,

Recognizing the value of non-governmental organizations and UN bodies such as the Australia Pacific Climate Partnership and the United Nations Human Settlements Program's youth-led groups, which develop programs to mitigate the effects of climate change in urban areas,

Having considered the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Asia Pacific Disaster Fund, which provides grants to relieve the immediate aftermath of natural disasters within the region,

Emphasizing the importance of higher education institutions such as Kyoto University's Disaster Prevention Research Institute for addressing the expanded riskscape in Asia Pacific,

Desiring the collaboration of public and private corporations to share technology information with governments to fulfill the goals of SDG 13,

Recalling that regional cooperation is necessary to address critical issues and that it is among the purposes behind the establishment of ESCAP,

Calling attention to the influence of new technology and economic development in confronting the expanded riskscape within the Asian-Pacific region,

Deeply alarmed that the mortality rates in 2021 and 2022 in less developed countries (LDCs) in the Asian-Pacific region were up to five and eight times higher than in other regional countries due to a lack of secure systems that alert rural and isolated communities of incoming disasters with accuracy,

Deeply concerned with the UN Office of Disaster Risk Reduction's (UNDRR) report regarding gaps in disaster preparedness and effective mitigation mechanisms due to a lack of financial and human resources in disaster-prone small island developing states (SIDS),

Urging the need for further frameworks that would counteract the unprecedented damages caused by expanding the current Emergency Preparedness Week through implementation by Member States,

1. *Requests* that the Executive Director of ESCAP, in collaboration with UNDRR, create an Asia-Pacific Riskscape Technology and Education Conference (ARTEC) that:
 - a. Reconvenes every four years in a volunteer host country contingent on the success of the initial conference;
 - b. Invites intergovernmental organizations, private technology companies, higher education institutions, youth organizations such as Youth Climate Action, and national climate research centers such as the United States' Environmental Protection Agency (EPA);
 - c. Promotes the exchange of research on technology relating to disaster risk reduction (DRR);
 - d. Includes a forum at which Member States can establish shared goals for climate change mitigation and adaptation DRR and climate control that would facilitate the establishment of DRR frameworks to advance SDG 13;
 - e. Includes a workshop to guide Member States wishing to utilize existing population data to produce disaster riskscape maps to map the economic and human impact of risks to identify and prioritize the most vulnerable areas;
 - f. Highlights innovations in early warning systems, artificial intelligence, engineering, infrastructure, and robotics;
2. *Suggests* the integration of various technological workshops at the ARTEC taught by volunteer representatives from developed Member States, which will emphasize:
 - a. Climate-related advancements in technology and development, innovations relating to reducing carbon footprints, promoting decarbonization and resource optimization, and advancing green technologies;
 - b. Fostering digital literacy in underserved communities impacted by natural hazards, including rural populations, women, and those with visual and auditory disabilities, modeled after the Women and Information and Communication Technology Frontier Initiative, established by Sri Lanka in 2016;
 - c. Promoting the use of innovative DRR technologies to vulnerable groups such as rural and isolated communities, indigenous communities, children, and migrant groups;
3. *Further invites* ARTEC attendees to design regional frameworks to enhance Member States' residents' disaster preparedness by:
 - a. Expanding National Emergency Preparedness Week to include simulations that reflect real-life natural disasters and the expected outcomes;
 - b. Utilizing disaster riskscape models that consider hazard exposure, population data, and economic impact to understand which regions to prioritize in emergency preparedness resources and education;
 - c. Designing workshops for residents in their respective Member States to equip them with the skills and confidence for better disaster resilience;

4. *Encourages* younger generations to contribute to the development of climate change and riskscape response by promoting educational exchanges;
5. *Affirms* the prioritization of investment in research and development initiatives to develop innovative climate change adaptation technologies, early warning systems, and resilient infrastructure for vulnerable communities such as SIDS and Member States with limited access to this technology in the Asia-Pacific region by:
 - a. Establishing research partnerships and collaborative networks between academia, government agencies, private sector stakeholders to leverage expertise and resources in addressing priority risk areas, and United Nations (UN) bodies such as United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and United Nations Environmental Assembly;
 - b. Providing funding from public-private partnerships and UN bodies, such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), to incentivize interdisciplinary research projects that explore the complex interactions between environmental, social, and economic risks and develop actionable insights for risk management;
 - c. Promoting knowledge sharing and technology transfer mechanisms to facilitate the uptake and adoption of research findings and innovations across the region;
6. *Urges* Member States to strengthen regional institutions and platforms for dialogue, information exchange, and joint action on cross-cutting issues such as climate change, disaster risk reduction, and public health by establishing a program similar to the DRMKC that is specific to the expanded riskscape in Asia and the Pacific, by:
 - a. Establishing mutually beneficial partnerships and networks among governments of Asia and the Pacific, civil society organizations, academia, the private sector, and UN bodies such as UNDRR to leverage expertise, resources, and best practices towards climate change adaptation;
 - b. Enhancing sustainability and inclusivity focused on specific risk reduction and resilience-building considerations with an emphasis on developing infrastructure projects meeting the needs of vulnerable communities;
 - c. Increasing investment in resilience and adaptability to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all Member States, prioritizing supporting capacity-building efforts and technology transfer to the most vulnerable regions;
 - d. Expediting progress towards climate response through enhanced regional cooperation, including sharing technological advancements, scientific research, and financial resources to support the implementation of comprehensive climate action plans;
7. *Encourages* ARTEC attendees to leverage ADB grants to provide education to Member States with limited access to technology and other necessary resources regarding disaster risk prevention.



Code: ESCAP/2/1

Committee: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Topic: Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Regarding the research reports published by the McKinsey Global Institute that suggest that improving healthcare access and quality could boost global gross domestic product (GDP) by \$12 trillion by 2040, access to healthcare services enables workers to stay healthy and productive and contribute to economic growth, and recognize the importance of access to quality healthcare services as essential for maintaining a healthy workforce,

Considering that the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) emphasizes the economic benefits of promoting work-life balance, with improved productivity and reduced absenteeism leading to higher economic output,

Expressing with deep concern that 37% of chronic pain and 16% of hearing loss is due to poor workplace conditions or standards, according to the World Health Organization's (WHO) Occupational Health Fact Sheet,

Alarmed that 44% of all farmers are affected by pesticide exposure every year, according to the International Labor Organization (ILO) report, which found exposure to hazardous chemicals results in health impacts,

Further alarmed by the need for more programs dedicated to addressing these pressing issues, similar to the Malaysian Systematic Occupational Health Enhancement Level Program (SOHELP), which provides low-cost, high-impact solutions for occupational injury such as hearing loss, concussions, and chemical exposure through the provision of personal protective equipment,

Acknowledging the continued absence of necessary social health protections for many people across the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region, with the ILO reporting 1.6 billion people lack access to this fundamental right accompanied by approximately 2.78 million annual work-related fatalities in the region due to a lack of workplace safety and health standards crucial for protecting workers from accidents, injuries, and occupational diseases,

Noting with concern the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) prediction that climate change will serve as the biggest threat to global health in the twenty-first century, the APAC region continues to face difficulty in facilitating the transition to a greener economy, with an S&P Global report finding 70% of all energy generated in the APAC region services from fossil-fuel sources, with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) finding green policies result in 0.5% annual increases in total employment and boosts after-tax income for lower-skilled workers, reducing inequality,

Affirming the positive economic impact regional trade agreements (RTAs) have on domestic economies,

Further noting the International Monetary Fund's report on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and RTAs, which determined the creation of RTAs saw FDI rates increase by 62% to 165%,

Reiterating the importance of abolishing predatory industries, notably those relating to sexual exploitation, with the ILO reporting sexually exploitative human trafficking's share of GDP accounting for as high as 14% in select East Asian States,

Conscious of the important role played by reports like the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Building Forward Together: Towards an Inclusive and Resilient Asia and the Pacific in advancing social protections for workers in the Asia Pacific region,

Stressing the importance of implementing measures focusing on helping unemployed people in the region find fair and suitable opportunities in the workforce,

Aware that the majority of workplaces are ill-equipped to protect workers from the negative health repercussions of climate change,

Guided by frameworks established by the sustainable development goals (SDG) 1, 2, 13, 16, and 17 to ensure that Member states take on a holistic approach to sustainable development,

Acknowledging the positive impacts of the Pacific Australian Labour Mobility (PALM) as well as the Australian Pacific Training Coalition (APTC) as they not only employ migrant workers but provide them with workers' rights within Australia,

Acknowledging the importance of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Consensus On the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in establishing and protecting the rights of Migrant Workers within the region,

Commending the efforts of many ESCAP Member States to expand their social assistance programs to support informal workers during the Covid-19 pandemic, particularly those changes to better coverage and support of informal and formal workers alike,

Cognizant of the current efforts within Asian and Pacific Member States to move towards an increased proportion of formalized and Decent Work as outlined by SDG 8,

Fully aware of the complexities, such as economic reliance, many Member States face concerning migrant workers and informal workers,

1. *Supports* investment in healthcare infrastructure and facilities, expanding healthcare coverage to underserved regions, improving the quality of healthcare services through training and capacity-building programs for healthcare professionals, and implementing initiatives to address healthcare disparities by:
 - a. Establishing public-private partnerships (PPPs) while encouraging governments to maybe allocate a portion of their budget specifically for healthcare infrastructure development and capacity-building programs;
 - b. Establishing on-site or nearby healthcare clinics in workplaces to provide easy access to primary healthcare services for employees;
 - c. Offering preventive care services such as vaccinations, health screenings, and wellness programs within the workplace;
 - d. Collaborating with local healthcare providers to organize regular health check-ups and consultations for employees;

- e. Providing subsidies or incentives for employees to access healthcare services, including coverage for medical appointments, prescriptions, and medical equipment;
2. *Suggests* the expansion of access to vocational training and skills development programs, establishing partnerships between government, educational institutions, and private sector employers to design industry-relevant training programs, providing incentives for employers to invest in employee training and upskilling initiatives, and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for workers through educational subsidies and grants;
3. *Urges* the implementation of regional and domestic policies that promote flexible work arrangements such as telecommuting and flexible hours, providing parental leave and childcare support for working parents, promoting a culture of work-life balance through leadership training and organizational initiatives, and encouraging employers to prioritize employee well-being;
4. *Further recommends* Member States to establish and collaborate on more reports similar to Building Forward Together 2021 alongside other fellow Member States as well as NGOs, that seek to:
 - a. Raise awareness of the poor working conditions in numerous industries across the region;
 - b. Provide possible solutions to increase working standards and better means of social protection;
 - c. Urge relevant governments to address the issue by enforcing regulations and tightening labor-related laws;
5. *Reiterates its call upon* Member States to continue to prioritize the adoption of green-centric economic policies and pursue regional agreements between developed and developing nations in the strategic exchange of green-centric technologies involving:
 - a. Member State participation in the ILO's Green Job Readiness Assessment, which provides policy recommendations to states based on the evaluation of production patterns, education systems, training, and labor practices to address the readiness of a national economy to make a transition to a green economy;
 - b. Replication of the ILO's Green Livelihoods of Rural Populations for Climate Resilience, which worked within Pakistan to promote best practices for agricultural workers in areas related to post-harvest and post-disaster recovery that is in the interest of protecting rural livelihoods against climate change;
6. *Advises* Member States to consider the role of greater border security metrics and funding of anti-trafficking agencies to reduce the trafficking of vulnerable workers operations modeled on:
 - a. Programs based on protecting migrant workers like the IOM's Ship 2 Shore Rights, which promotes the rights of workers in the seafood catching and processing industry to protect them from trafficking and exploitation through advocacy and reporting systems;
 - b. Initiatives like the ILO's *CLEAR* Cotton initiative, which seeks to prevent exploitation and trafficking in the agricultural and textile sectors, where children and migrant workers may be present, through community awareness programs and reporting systems;

7. *Encourages* Member States to increase regional cooperation through the adoption of deep economic integration measures grounded on the lineaments of the International Trade Union Confederation for Asia and the Pacific (ITUC-AP) to provide harmonizing and facilitate economic collaboration and interaction among Member States, including but not limited to the creation of:
 - a. Economic unions where the Member States' workforce have a regional institution protecting their policy-making decisions and advocating for their rights and governance, fostering prosperity;
 - b. Trade agreements and their reductions towards companies according to their formal workforce scope contribution under the premise of injecting more formal recognition regionally;
8. *Suggests* the implementation of programs similar to the PALM and Pacific Labour Scheme (PLS) by:
 - a. Fostering job creation in Member States outside of Pacific Islanders;
 - b. Implementing a comprehensive set of measures designed to safeguard workers through screening of employers, a robust monitoring and compliance framework, regular spot checks, and the provision of a dedicated support service phone line;
9. *Recommends that* ESCAP Member States implement new laws that take greater control of labor brokerage companies by:
 - a. Reviewing the conditions of the work migrant workers are subjected to in host countries by launching studies in coordination with the United Nations Committee on the Protection of All Migrant Workers (CMW);
 - b. Utilizing legal scholars to review migrant workers laws and recommend reforms that ensure domestic laws protect migrant workers as well as domestic workers;
10. *Appeals to* Member States in their support of migrant workers within the region to encourage cooperation in the implementation of rights established by ASEAN within the region;
11. *Recommends* Member States take part in the ILO's WIND training program, which provides guidance for the safe management of agricultural chemicals and machinery on small shareholder farms through online and in-person seminars;
12. *Calls upon* Member States to prioritize health education through workplace training by employers or government officials to equip workplaces of all varieties to adapt and protect workers from the negative health repercussions rising from climate change through educational initiatives utilizing outlets such as social media and community centers:
 - a. Taking into account local languages to ensure all workers can understand and access the necessary information;
 - b. With respect given to local cultural customs to ensure that individuals feel respected and initiatives meet the individual's needs;

13. *Encourages* the development of modified emergency social assistance programs within Member States, focused on an equitable plan of distribution for formal and informal workers alike and policies that are not contingent on the formality of a household's work;
14. *Suggests* additional members to implement a model similar to the ones of the Philippines' Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), which focuses on:
 - a. Providing adequate information on workforce opportunities to job-seeking individuals to increase the odds of specific placements for people with specific skills;
 - b. Offering financial assistance to the necessary job application requirements for participants seeking employment opportunities.



Code: ESCAP/2/2

Committee: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Topic: Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Noting with concern that 60% of Asian Pacific workers are forced to fully and independently fund their own healthcare,

Emphasizing the significant contributions and challenges faced by informal workers in accessing healthcare, ensuring occupational safety, and achieving gender equality,

Noting with deep concern how the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted existing issues in both labor and healthcare coverage across the Asia and Pacific region (APAC),

Reaffirming the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Labor Organization's Decent Work Agenda,

Draws attention to the negative outcomes of sanctions on Member States, leading to increased vulnerability to poverty,

Alarmed by the number of over 400 million nonfatal occupational injuries across the region annually, underscoring the urgent need for concerted efforts to improve workplace safety,

Recognizing the work of ESCAP's Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (APCICT),

Acknowledging the hazardous conditions, including but not limited to chemical and height exposure, in Asia and the Pacific Region leading to unnecessary deaths in the workforce in the Asia-Pacific Region,

Gravely concerned that almost two million workers die each year from work-related causes necessitating the need for the safety of workers, according to the International Labor Organization (ILO) report in 2021,

Acknowledging the fact that workers in the informal sector need better microfinance and social protection policies which will assist them with reducing poverty and vulnerability,

Deeply disturbed that in 2020, 48.7 million children were involved in hazardous child labor, specifically in the Asia-Pacific region, according to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund's (UNICEF) Child Labor Report 2022,

Understanding that while this committee looks forward to developing healthcare in the post-COVID-19 era, Member States should also keep in mind Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all,

Acknowledging previous regional efforts to optimize collaboration, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' (ASEAN) Political-Security and Socio-Cultural Communities (PROSPECT) programs,

Expressing its appreciation to SafeYouth@Work by the International Labor Organization (ILO) and its promotion of occupational safety and workplace training for young workers and those who are more prone to occupational hazards and accidents,

Aware of Youth LEAD and ChildFund International, which provide grants and opportunities for children in developing countries to ensure that children are protected,

Emphasizing the importance of temporary government relief programs to expand healthcare coverage in times of disease and epidemic crises,

Bearing in mind previous international and regional efforts to address the issue of maintaining a healthy and productive workforce, such as the United Nations Socio-Economic Response Framework (UN-SERF) and ASEAN's Post-2015 Health Development Agenda,

Encouraging Member States to collaborate with regional or culturally affiliated non-governmental organizations to ensure a holistic approach that respects culture and its values when addressing communities in Asia and the Pacific relating to workers' rights and productivity levels,

1. *Urges* all Member States to develop and implement policies that promote access to affordable healthcare services for informal and formal workers, including preventive care, treatment, and rehabilitation services by:
 - a. Establishing and enforcing regulations to ensure occupational safety and health standards are met in all workplaces, such as:
 - i. Establishing a normal workweek guideline;
 - ii. Forming a human resource center to delegate local issues within formal work environments;
 - b. Enhancing social protection measures for informal workers, including access to unemployment benefits, pensions, and other forms of financial assistance; Taking collaborative steps with NGOs to work towards formalizing the informal labor market;
2. *Calls upon* Member States to develop comprehensive strategies for formalizing informal work, including:
 - a. Simplifying registration processes and reducing bureaucratic barriers for informal workers to enter the formal economy;
 - b. Establishing mechanisms for the enforcement of labor rights and standards in the informal sector;
 - c. Facilitating access to financial services, including credit and savings, for informal workers to support their businesses and livelihoods;
 - d. Providing training, education, and capacity-building programs to enhance the skills and productivity of informal workers;
3. *Urges* Member States to work bilaterally with the ASEAN and the World Health Organization (WHO) to collaborate on a medical insurance fund for the workforce at a rate sufficient for their own state's need to support the workforce and strengthen the healthcare sector within;
4. *Recommends* that Member States consider participating in collaborative conferences and education initiatives to address the intersection of labor and health through:

- a. Including ASEAN to expand the existing PROSPECT programs, especially their training and conference programs, to better focus on the issues of healthcare coverage and labor;
 - b. Encouraging collaboration with SafeYouth@Work by ILO to promote the occupational safety and health of workers by enhancing safety awareness, providing training, and fostering collaboration;
5. *Encourages* Member States to consider the implementation within their Member State of temporary worker's healthcare coverage relief programs by including a system of allocation similar to Myanmar's COVID Relief Plan, where social security or similar funds allocate a portion of their funds towards assistance to workers who have been affected by crises;
6. *Implores* Member States to collaborate in the effort to promote international cooperation in the areas of trade and global economy, given the diversity of national economic systems;
7. *Recommends* that Member States host a conference with Youth LEAD and ChildFund International to discuss solutions, such as funding, to ensure the safety of children who are forced into labor to survive;
8. *Calls* for the extension of regional education initiatives aimed to significantly reduce the number of fatal and nonfatal occupational injuries by enhancing workplace safety and health protection measures, to decrease these incidents by at least 30% by the year 2030 through enhancing the work of the APCITCT through:
 - a. Building new training facilities in areas with high work-related injury rates;
 - b. Promoting further funding by the Member States to intensively share best practices and training resources.



Code: ESCAP/2/3

Committee: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Topic: Promoting a Healthy, Protected, and Productive Workforce in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic & Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Reaffirming the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 2008/18 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which promotes inclusive, sustainable economic growth by ensuring decent employment conditions for all workers and the key role of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 3, 8, and 9, respectfully focusing on good health and well-being, decent work and economic growth and industry, innovation, and infrastructure,

Reiterating the importance of upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) Article 23.3, “Everyone who works has the right to just and favorable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection,”

Recalling the International Labor Organization (ILO)’s goals of creating an inclusive and protected workforce where workers have a safe environment, social protection, and fair treatment,

Acknowledging the major impact of ILO frameworks, such as the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the Convention on the Right to Organize and to Bargain Collectively No. 98, which outline the promotion of decent work, social justice, and inclusive economic development,

Further recalling the importance of the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (OXFAM), which addresses inequalities exacerbated by global poverty and nongovernmental organizations (NGO) having substantial impacts on ethical and sustainable employment, such as Rikolto, which encourages ethical rice farming practices in Asia,

Recalling the Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development’s youth program, which educated young boys and girls on the skills to farm both ethically and sustainably,

Stressing the importance of educational facilities in rural communities in the Asia Pacific region,

Acknowledging the necessity to reach accessible and comprehensive healthcare, social insurance and other forms of social protection in ensuring the well-being and productivity of workers,

Deeply appreciative of the efforts and contributions to strengthen regional health security by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for the Asia Pacific Region,

Promoting domestic workers’ rights to ensure their bargaining authority as stated in the Fundamental Principles of Rights at Work (FPRW) and the necessity for well-implemented protections for workers in the Asia Pacific,

Highlighting the importance of protection of foreign workers’ rights and their families in ESCAP Member States, following the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their families,

Recognizing the active contribution of organizations such as the Worker Rights Consortium (WRC) to provide workers a democratic voice to address issues such as social injustices and unsafe working conditions that pertain in the workforce,

Concerned by the lack of healthcare workers in Asian Pacific Member States, particularly following the COVID-19 pandemic,

Acknowledging that the ILO reports that nearly three million people die every year as a result of work-related accidents and that agriculture, construction, fishing, manufacturing, and forestry account for 63% of fatal work-related injuries,

Taking note that promoting a strong economy in resource-limited nations provides them with better means of providing workers with social protections and formal employment,

Affirming the need for the international community to address and improve the situation of the workforce in Asia and the Pacific, including transitioning workers from the informal to the formal employment sector to ensure their rights, well-being, and contribution to inclusive growth,

Recognizing the need for women's access to the workforce while being sensitive to the cultures and traditions of Member States,

Highlighting the positive contributions of the Sustainable Rice Platform, which has created a standard guideline to ensure the protection of workers and the environment regarding rice production,

Cognizant of the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Group's Regional Collaborative Platform for Asia and the Pacific, which unites all UN entities to advance sustainable development across borders,

Calling attention to the annual core voluntary contributions to the World Health Organization (WHO) from Australia and Finland flexibly and predictably to support delivery of its Thirteenth General Programme of Work 2019-23 and to advance SDG 3, which is ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages,

1. *Urges* Member States to formalize informal work to increase social protection, assess, to adopt Active Labour Market Policies (ALMPs) in their domestic labor policy, including but not limited to public works programs, job search assistance, occupational training in line with the ILO protocols, safety training workshops and workplace emergency response programs to incentivize people to move from the informal to formal work sector;
2. *Urges* Member States to facilitate the registration and formalization of informal enterprises, providing them with necessary support, such as technical assistance, training, and access to finance to comply with legal requirements and standards;
3. *Encourages* Member States to review, update, and enforce existing domestic policies to ensure that they are in line with the standards of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work regarding workers' rights, wages, working hours, occupational health, safety, collective bargaining, freedom of association, forced labor, and child labor, by:
 - a. Publishing a list of non-compliant businesses on state department websites;
 - b. Creating a single internet portal for the registration of workers and businesses;
 - c. Providing tax benefits to employers who hire formal workers;

- d. Establishing dedicated national offices to coordinate government efforts on the enforcement of policies concerning informal work;
4. *Suggests* implementing ethical worker protections for employees and employers in the Asia Pacific, such as:
 - a. Outlining clear protections of the employer in the workforce distributed in mandatory insurance embedded into employer contracts, in addition to employer handbooks;
 - b. *Suggests* increasing efforts of efficient monitoring and regulations of job facilities by utilizing worker compensation for workers who operate without adhering to compliance standards;
5. *Encourages* the promotion of social dialogue and partnerships among governments, employers, workers, and relevant stakeholders to develop tailored strategies and programs for the transition to formal employment, ensuring inclusivity and participation of marginalized groups;
6. *Suggests* the incorporation of regional construction guidelines in alignment with the ILO Safety and Health in Construction Convention throughout the Asian-Pacific region to ensure the protection of the workforce regarding topics of mental health structure to provide resources and services in both public and private settings and contribute to the necessities of the workforce mental wellness;
7. *Suggests* Member States to expand upon educational opportunities for their workforce by:
 - a. Working alongside NGOs, such as the Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development, to educate the next generation on sustainable agriculture, furthering the amount of employment opportunities;
 - b. Expanding access to educational workshops in rural communities, which will provide education on a variety of job-providing skills, such as technological and financial literacy;
8. *Encourages* Member States to ensure the existence of ethical and sustainable agriculture through working alongside NGOs, such as Rikolto, to expand the number of Member States following the Sustainable Rice Platform while also sponsoring Sustainable Rice Platform work shops, which will further educate agricultural workers on sustainable farming methods through educational workshops;
9. *Calls upon* Member States to further continue setting international and regional occupational standards, as expressed in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Good Occupational Safety and Health Practices 2008/2009, and expand by including Special Observers;
10. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen legal and policy frameworks to support the transition of workers from informal to formal employment, including measures to enhance labor rights, social protection, and access to productive resources;
11. *Requests* that ESCAP's upcoming 2026 Social Outlook Report for Asia and the Pacific focus in part on ALMPs and how they might be implemented, as well as on how best to ensure that private in Asia and the Pacific are upholding ILO standards;

12. *Calls upon* worker's rights organizations and employer advocacy organizations, such as the Worker Rights Consortium and International Labor Rights Forum, to serve as partners in the process of formalizing informal work by considering potential joint initiatives to improve the government's ability to enforce ILO standards;
13. *Calls upon* collaboration between NGOs, such as OXFAM, the Red Cross, humanitarian groups, and governments to ensure that low-income individuals are protected against job loss, exploitation, and injury;
14. *Endorses* efforts by Member States to work towards achieving SDG 8, which advocates protecting and promoting a safe and secure working environment for all, but foreign workers specifically by:
 - a. Inviting Member States to increase the number of work permits to support foreign workers and formal employment further;
 - b. Promoting regional cooperation on labor migration governance, including the protection of foreign workers' rights and the facilitation of safe and orderly migration channels;
15. *Encouraging* Member States to offer additional ideas to the Asian Network for the Rights of Occupational and Environment Victims (ANROEV) dedicated to Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) measures to further:
 - a. Provide opportunities for employees to speak out against social injustices democratically;
 - b. Improve occupational safety and health issues that arise from chemical poisoning and exposure;
17. *Draws attention to* the value of Member States electing to streamline the process of certifying healthcare workers so that it is uniform across the region so that they can work formally in other Member States;
18. *Expresses its hope* that Member States will consider the feasibility of the creation of a Workforce Resilience Fund with voluntary support from Member States by urging nations to establish transparent and accountable mechanisms for the administration and allocation of funds through the proposed Workforce Resilience Fund to ensure equitable access and distribution based on identified needs;
19. *Encourages* developed countries to create a labor mutual fund (LMF) that is aimed at improving labor welfare systems:
 - a. Providing incentives, anyone who wants to get the LMF must improve their labor welfare condition first and the countries doing well can finally receive the funding. With healthy competition among nations, a positive cycle is formed, ultimately leading to the development of a robust and productive workforce in each Asia and Pacific;
 - b. The Member States that get the fund can only use that fund to improve labor-related improvement;
 - c. Invites the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries countries to be a sponsor of a mutual fund;

20. *Encourages* Member States to actively collaborate with The Global March Against Child Labor to allocate resources to ensure child protection against forced labor.