

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
KAGAWARAN NG UGNAYANG PANLABAS

OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

29 May 2018

09684

Madam:

Enclosed are copies of the following resolutions adopted during the 74th Session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific held on 11-16 May 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand.:

1. Advancing disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific;
2. Accelerating the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific.

The first resolution, **sponsored by the Philippines and co-sponsored by Thailand, Australia and Cambodia**, requests the Committee on Statistics and the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction to review the results of the work of the Expert Working Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific at their 6th session and submit the outcome of said review to the Commission at its 76th session. The Philippine Delegation successfully prevented a deadlock in the negotiations of this Philippine sponsored resolution by proposing new texts that were accepted by Japan and Iran, removing the contentious texts on the creation of another technical working group, and its budgetary implications while giving due consideration to the outcome documents resulting from 4 years of work by an Expert Group on Statistics. PSA's original text requiring the Commission to directly implement the recommendations of the Expert Group was unacceptable to most delegations, particularly Japan and Iran.

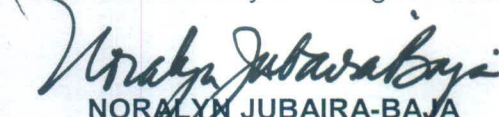
The second resolution, **sponsored by Fiji and co-sponsored by Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia and the Philippines**, takes note of the report of the Regional Group for Civil Registration and Vital statistics at its 3rd meeting and decides to convene a second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific in 2020 to review its midterm progress in the implementation of the Regional Action Framework. The progress of the implementation of the resolution will be reported to the Commission at its 77th session in 2021.

With the adoption of these two resolutions, the Philippines has again proven its status as a champion on Statistics-related work in the UN.

Also enclosed is a copy of the Philippine Statement delivered at the High-Level Segment by the Head of the Philippine Delegation, NEDA Undersecretary Rosemarie G. Edillon, for information and reference.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of Foreign Affairs:


NORALYN JUBAIRA-BAJA
Acting Assistant Secretary

Encl.-a/s.

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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**Seventy-fourth session**

Agenda items 3 (f) and (h)

**Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific****74/6. Advancing disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific***The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,**Recalling* General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 71/276 of 2 February 2017, in which the Assembly acknowledged the conclusion of the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction and endorsed its recommendations to, inter alia, support States Members of the United Nations in the operationalization of the global indicators to measure progress towards the achievement of the global targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030¹ and the relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goals,*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015 on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, particularly paragraph 24 of annex II on priority action at national and local levels on understanding disaster risk,*Recalling* resolution 72/11 of 19 May 2016 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on advancing disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific for the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, Commission resolution 71/12 of 29 May 2015 on strengthening regional mechanisms for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific and Commission resolution 70/2 of 23 May 2014, in which it established the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific,*Recalling also* decision 49/113 of 9 March 2018 of the Statistical Commission, as contained in its report on its forty-ninth session, held from 6 to 9 March 2018,² in which it welcomed a greater focus on disaster-related statistics

¹ General Assembly resolution 69/283, annex II.

² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 4* (E/2018/24), chap. I, sect. B.

given the importance of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and included in the agenda of its fiftieth session a separate item on that topic, building on existing work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction,

Noting the outcomes of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, including the design and pilot testing of the Disaster-related Statistics Framework and associated guidance on the production and analysis of a harmonized basic range of disaster-related statistics by national agencies,³

Recalling Commission resolution 71/11 of 29 May 2015 on the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management, in which the Commission recognized that the main objective of the Centre would be, inter alia, to strengthen regional cooperation on information sharing and management of disaster risk reduction,

Noting the efforts by the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific to coordinate with related initiatives and to align the Disaster-related Statistics Framework with the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction, established by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/284 of 3 June 2015, of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators of the Statistical Commission, of the Task Force on Measuring Extreme Events and Disaster of the Conference of European Statisticians, and of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management,

Acknowledging the guidance and oversight provided by the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Committee on Statistics to the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific on its work,

Recognizing the necessity of advancing the implementation of the Disaster-related Statistics Framework and of continuing regional coordination, especially exchanges of best practices and technical support for the production and dissemination of harmonized disaster-related statistics for multiple purposes, including reporting on international indicators,

1. *Requests* the Committee on Statistics, at its sixth session, and the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction, at its sixth session, to review the results of the work of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific and to submit those reviews to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-sixth session;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to support the development of disaster-related statistics using the framework of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Sendai Monitoring;

(b) To continue to accord priority to coordination with other national and international institutions, including through the Global Partnership on Disaster-related Statistics, the working group on geospatial information and services for disasters of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific, and the Asian and

³ See ESCAP/74/24.

Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management, in order to help to ensure alignment with internationally agreed development goals and to continue to foster cooperation and synergies among relevant initiatives on statistical development and geospatial information management;

(c) To support the preparation of a joint report by the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, pursuant to decision 49/113 of the Statistical Commission, taking into consideration the work of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific.

*7th plenary meeting
16 May 2018*

**Economic and Social Council**Distr.: General
18 May 2018

Original: English

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**Seventy-fourth session**

Agenda item 3 (h)

**Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific****74/8. Accelerating the implementation of the Regional Action
Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia
and the Pacific***The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,*

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Recalling also resolution 71/14 of 29 May 2015 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015–2024, in which it endorsed the Ministerial Declaration to “Get Every One in the Picture” in Asia and the Pacific,¹ adopted by the Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 24 to 28 November 2014,

Recognizing the progress made by members and associate members of the Commission to improve their civil registration and vital statistics systems through the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific,²

Noting with appreciation the work of the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific to support members and associate members in the implementation of the Regional Action Framework,

Taking note of the report on the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific on its third meeting,³

Noting that despite considerable progress, many members and associate members face challenges and therefore strengthened coordination is needed to

¹ Resolution 71/14, annex, sect. A.

² Resolution 71/14, annex, sect. B.

³ ESCAP/74/25.

accelerate improvements to ensure that the goals of the Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade are met,

Noting also that well-functioning civil registration and vital statistics systems are crucial for advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals,

Emphasizing the urgent need to improve civil registration and vital statistics systems for sustainable and inclusive development in the region,

1. *Reiterates* the commitment of members and associate members to the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific;²

2. *Decides* to convene a second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific in 2020 to review the midterm progress in the implementation of the Regional Action Framework;

3. *Encourages* members and associate members to further strengthen coordination, monitoring and knowledge-sharing to improve civil registration and vital statistics systems in their countries;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to support members and associate members, including through technical assistance upon request, in the implementation of the Regional Action Framework;

(b) To support the convening of a second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific in 2020, as appropriate;

(c) To report to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-seventh session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

*7th plenary meeting
16 May 2018*