

**320 (XXVIII). Redesignating the Technical Committee as the “Executive Committee”
and amending its terms of reference**

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

Referring to its decision made on 11 May 2006 during its twenty-fourth session concerning the establishment of a technical committee which should meet once every six months to follow up the implementation of the programme of work,¹

Referring also to the terms of reference of the Technical Committee as revised at its fifth meeting, held on 6 and 7 April 2011, which stipulate that the Technical Committee shall hold three meetings per biennium, in support of the ministerial session of the Commission, to advise and assist the secretariat in planning and implementing the programme of work and to take action on any other matters,

Having considered the recommendation of the Technical Committee at its seventh meeting to amend the mandate of the Technical Committee in order to facilitate its work and strengthen its ability in taking decisions and responding to regional and international developments,²

Having also considered the recommendation of the Technical Committee at its eighth meeting to redesignate the Technical Committee as the “Executive Committee” and amend its terms of reference, so that it may play a greater role in steering and coordinating the activities of the Commission,³

Noting the increasing global and regional challenges and the need to develop swift regional responses to them,

Underscoring the importance of strengthening the intergovernmental engagement of member States in the decision-making processes of the Commission, in particular to ensure an integrated approach to the work of the Commission,

1. *Decides* to redesignate the Technical Committee as the “Executive Committee”;
2. *Also decides* to revise the role of the Technical Committee and its terms of reference, with immediate effect, as set out in annex to the present resolution;
3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to follow up on the implementation of the present resolution.

Annex

Terms of reference of the Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee shall submit a report on its activities to the Commission at its sessions.
2. The Executive Committee shall convene three meetings in the period between the biennial sessions of the Commission.

¹ ESCWA, *Report on the twenty-fourth session*, 8-11 May 2006, E/ESCWA/24/10, para. 49.

² ESCWA, *Report of the Technical Committee on its seventh meeting*, 18-19 March 2013, E/ESCWA/2012/C.7/8/Report, para. 7 (q).

³ ESCWA, *Report of the Technical Committee on its eighth meeting*, 10-12 December 2013, E/ESCWA/2013/C.8/10/Report, para. 6 (g).

3. The Executive Committee shall be entrusted with submitting resolutions and reports to the Economic and Social Council, on matters excluding the terms of reference of the Commission.
4. The Executive Committee shall undertake the following:
 - (a) Organize the sessions of the Commission;
 - (b) Review and adopt the programme of work of the subsidiary committees on the basis of criteria defined by the Executive Committee;
 - (c) Ensure consistency between subprogrammes;
 - (d) Deal with all matters related to programme planning.
5. The membership of the Executive Committee shall mirror that of the Commission.
6. The chairs or vice-chairs of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission can be invited to the meetings of the Executive Committee.
7. The Executive Committee may propose amendments to its terms of reference, which shall be considered for adoption by the Commission.
8. The Executive Committee shall be chaired by a representative of the country chairing the Commission.

8th plenary meeting
18 September 2014