Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

REPORT
OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
BEIRUT, 26-27 JANUARY 2010

Summary

The Technical Committee of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) held its fourth meeting at the United Nations House on 26 and 27 January 2010 and brought together representatives of ESCWA member countries.

The Committee agenda included a diversified series of items, mainly the regional and global priorities as well as their effects on the region, covering climate change, food security and the empowerment of women; ongoing preparations for the twenty-sixth ESCWA ministerial session; proposed strategic framework for the 2012-2013 biennium; views of member countries of ESCWA work; main activities carried out since July 2009; and follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations adopted at the third meeting of the Technical Committee.

This report reviews the most important issues raised in discussions as well as the main recommendations adopted by participants following the discussion of each item of the agenda.
# CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paragraphs</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chapter**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Paragraphs</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. RECOMMENDATIONS</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION</td>
<td>5-30</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Consideration of Terms of Reference of the Technical Committee</td>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Views of member countries of ESCWA work: successes and possible areas of improvement</td>
<td>8-10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Regional and global priorities: climate change, food security and empowerment of women</td>
<td>11-15</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Proposed strategic framework of the biennium 2012-2013</td>
<td>16-19</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Ongoing preparations for the twenty-sixth ESCWA ministerial session</td>
<td>20-21</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Progress achieved in implementing activities of the secretariat</td>
<td>22-29</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Date and venue of the fifth meeting of the Technical Committee</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AT ITS FOURTH MEETING</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING</td>
<td>32-38</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Date and venue of the meeting</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Opening</td>
<td>33-34</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Participants</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters</td>
<td>36-37</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Documents</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LIST OF ANNEXES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Paragraphs</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. List of participants</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. List of documents</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

1. The Technical Committee was established pursuant to the decision of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) at its twenty-fourth session held in Beirut from 8 to 11 May 2006. It aims to enhance direct communication between the ESCWA secretariat and member countries on economic and social development issues undertaken by ESCWA. The Committee is convened once every six months to follow up on global and regional developments and the implementation of ESCWA programme of work, as well as to provide support for its activities and projects.

2. The Technical Committee held its fourth meeting at the United Nations House in Beirut on 26 and 27 January 2010. The first meeting was convened on Tuesday 26 January 2010 at 10 a.m. in the main conference hall at the United Nations House. The discussion of agenda items was initiated during the morning session following the opening session in which participants considered the terms of reference of the Technical Committee as well as the views of member countries of ESCWA work. At the evening session, participants discussed regional and global priorities in addition to the launching of the Committee webpage on ESCWA website.

3. On the second day, representatives of member countries discussed the remaining items of the agenda, mainly the proposed strategic framework for the 2012-2013 biennium, ongoing preparations for the twenty-sixth ESCWA ministerial session to be held from 17 to 20 May 2010; and the progress achieved in implementing activities of the secretariat. This report reviews the issues raised during discussions and the recommendations adopted by participants.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS

4. At the end of the fourth meeting, the Technical Committee reached a number of recommendations and suggestions, some of which are related to topics included on the agenda and others to the nature of work of the Committee and ESCWA and the way of activating it. Suggestions and recommendations made by the delegates in the framework of technical topics included on the agenda were as follows:

Terms of Reference of the Technical Committee

(a) To amend paragraph 10 (b) of document E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/3 dealing with the revised terms of reference of the Technical Committee, in particular those related to the follow-up of the implementation of resolutions adopted during ESCWA ministerial sessions and reporting thereto, for it to become as follows: “to advise and assist the secretariat in following up implementation of the Ministerial Committee resolutions […] and reporting on it”;

Dates of meetings

(b) To define the dates of the Technical Committee meetings in advance, provided member countries are informed of any change that would occur as to defined dates;

Evaluation of ESCWA work

(c) To give member countries, during following meetings of the Committee, the opportunity to submit their views of ESCWA work: successes and possible areas of improvement;

(d) To prepare an evaluation questionnaire to facilitate the identification of the views of member countries of ESCWA work, and distribute it to member countries two months before the regular meeting of the Committee in order to allow sufficient time for consultation and coordination with concerned bodies to fill out the questionnaire and submit it;
Participation in meetings

(e) To reaffirm the necessity for the continuous participation of a specific body in the meetings of the Committee in order to effectively ensure the follow-up of recommendations emanating from it;

Other recommendations

(f) To reaffirm the importance of completing the data and background information concerning topics presented to the Committee prior to the scheduled meeting and to clarify the recommendations and proposals requested from member countries on each topic;

(g) To upload ESCWA publications on the website with the possibility of free download, as well as the documents of the meetings in general and the documents of the Committee meetings in particular, four weeks prior to the meetings in order to enable participants to examine the documents which will be discussed;

(h) To coordinate with member countries the preparation of ESCWA proposed strategic framework and to allow sufficient time for these countries to study the strategic framework for the 2012-2013 biennium, and add their observations, within four weeks as of the end of the Committee meeting;

(i) To reaffirm the need to send documents of the ESCWA ministerial session to member countries six weeks before its scheduled date, in order to enable them to review and point out their observations;

(j) To agree for the “Role of Youth and their Empowerment” to be the main theme of the twenty-sixth session of ESCWA and for “Human and Institutional Capacity Building” topic to be addressed in a roundtable;

(k) To provide a list with names and addresses of representatives of member countries on the Committee webpage to facilitate communication and enable them to discuss issues of common interest;

(l) To request the secretariat to provide technical and legal opinion when formulating recommendations prior to adoption.

II. ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

A. CONSIDERATION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
(ITEM 3 OF THE AGENDA)

5. The Technical Committee examined this item based on document E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/3, which tackles the amended terms of reference and tasks of the Committee. The discussion covered the frequency of the Committee meetings and the mechanism to follow-up adopted decisions.

6. Based on the recommendation adopted at the third meeting of the Technical Committee regarding the revision of the tasks and terms of reference of the Committee as adopted at its first meeting, the secretariat reviewed the Committee terms of reference and tasks and presented them to participants during the fourth meeting for discussion and final ratification. Moreover, the secretariat will prepare a draft resolution on this matter to be presented at the twenty-sixth ministerial session of ESCWA.

7. The main amendments of the Technical Committee terms of reference affected the frequency of the Committee meetings, which will be held three times per biennium, in addition to a fourth time, if necessary, upon consultation between the secretariat and the Committee Bureau. As for other amendments, they addressed the tasks of the Committee in such a way to elucidate its role in providing advice and assistance to the secretariat.
B. VIEWS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES OF ESCWA WORK: SUCCESSES AND POSSIBLE AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT
(Item 4 of the agenda)

8. The secretariat included this item on the agenda in order to benefit from constructive criticism provided by member countries to improve its performance in the various areas covered by ESCWA programme of work. The Technical Committee reviewed under this item the views of Bahrain, Jordan, Palestine and Saudi Arabia. Delegates of the four countries presented the main achievements of ESCWA with a focus on advisory services provided to several ministries in different fields such as the information and communications technology, balanced development, social development, women empowerment, water resources etc., organization of seminars, training sessions and workshops; implementation of field projects, and ratification of successful agreements to enhance regional integration.

9. In this context as well, delegates of the four countries underlined areas in which ESCWA can improve its performance, such as issuing studies with applicable results; implementing more activities aimed to orient member countries towards knowledge-based economy in all sectors; heeding safe and productive investment policies; providing technical and financial support to enhance the advancement of Arab women; setting a specific mechanism to discuss and review consolidated reports and studies; securing additional funding for field projects; regularly modernizing and harmonizing the Technical Cooperation Network website; taking into consideration the geographical distribution in the selection of experts and preparation of projects; coordinating with regional organizations in the preparation of studies and reports to avoid duplication and increase integration particularly with regard to issues related to the advancement of women; and announcing upcoming activities of ESCWA in advance and providing member countries with the documents to be discussed prior to the scheduled meeting in order to enable countries to review documents and make observations.

10. During the discussion, participants commended this experience and stressed the importance of enabling member countries to present their views of ESCWA work in future meetings, promoting the exchange of experiences and information, benefiting from and disseminating successful experiences, improving the services provided by ESCWA to member countries to meet their needs and be in line with their priorities, and implementing activities commensurate with their development needs; thereby contributing to increasing the effectiveness of ESCWA work and achieving the desired outcomes.

C. REGIONAL AND GLOBAL PRIORITIES: CLIMATE CHANGE, FOOD SECURITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN
(Item 5 of the agenda)

11. Under this item, the Technical Committee examined regional and global priorities namely climate change, food security and empowerment of women, based on three presentations made by the secretariat containing an overview of these three issues as well as their implications on the Arab region.

(a) Climate change

12. The first presentation reviewed the main challenges to sustainable development in the Arab region, including the steady increase in population, low effectiveness of poverty alleviation programmes, scarcity of natural resources, and limitedness of land resources as well as their vulnerability to degradation and desertification. The presentation went on to tackle the potential impacts of climate change on the Arab region, divided into three main themes: effects of climate change on natural resources (global warming and rise in sea-level); social impacts (such as the possibility of regional conflicts over impaired natural resources); and economic impacts (such as the difficulty in providing food and rise in its cost). Some Arab positions on the issues of climate change and ongoing negotiations included the Arab Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change (6 December 2007), the Arab Ministerial Statement on Copenhagen Negotiations in 2009, and the Arab Framework Action Plan on Climate Change requested by the Council of Arab Ministers...
Responsible for the Environment at its eleventh session (November 2009). The presentation reviewed climate change in the framework of ESCWA work programme for the biennium 2010-2011, which included a series of studies, reports, expert group meetings and other activities related to climate change as well as in the framework of the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013, which included activities in line with the progress of work in fighting climate change in the region.

(b) **Food security**

13. The second presentation tackled food security and its three pillars, namely, food availability, food access and food use, also pointing out the difference between food insecurity and food crisis. The presentation reviewed the causes of the current food crisis, particularly in the ESCWA region where food imports represent 50 per cent of the overall food needs. Main causes include population growth, weak economic and productive capacities, lack of stability, poverty, as well as the increase in the price of food in global markets. The presentation reviewed the four activities to be undertaken by ESCWA in conflict-affected countries namely: conduct a situation analysis and needs assessment of ESCWA member countries; formulate a working paper addressing the challenges and opportunities of attaining food security; organize a regional conference on food security, and formulate and implement capacity-building modules targeting relevant civil servants.

(c) **Empowerment of women**

14. The third presentation highlighted the main achievements of Arab States in various fields related to the empowerment of women, particularly in legislation, education and health. It stressed the importance of concerted efforts and joint actions to give women the opportunity to be more effective in Arab societies. The presentation reviewed the measures and actions taken by member countries to empower women such as the establishment of national mechanisms for the empowerment of women, the provision of a gender-disaggregated database, and the development of indicators for measuring violence against women, while noting the challenges to the implementation of women-related projects and plans. The presentation moved then to the role of ESCWA in assisting member countries in the field of empowerment of women, such as providing technical support and up-to-date studies and policies that contribute to the achievement of international goals, and strengthening mechanisms to join work between various national institutions and governmental and community organizations.

15. In the discussion that followed these presentations, delegates of member countries stressed the need for these studies and analyses to be reflected in the political arena, and for efforts to be directed towards the expression of an Arab political position on these important topics at both regional and international levels. They observed a need in examining figures and statistics mentioned in the presentations, and relying on national sources for statistics, as well as to the necessity to heed women’s participation in the informal economic sector, which comprises a large proportion of working women.

D. **PROPOSED STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE BIENNUN 2012-2013**

(Item 6 of the agenda)

16. The secretariat made a presentation on the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013, which included an overview of the path taken to prepare the framework, starting with the forms sent to member countries to the proposition of the work programme and the budget allocated to its implementation. It reviewed as well the performance of ESCWA during the 2008-2009 biennium which showed a noticeable improvement in the outputs. The seven subprogrammes of the framework were reviewed as they aim to enhance economic and social integration on both regional and sub-regional levels, and to achieve solidarity between the countries of the region at the level of international policy and at the heart of global economy. These subprogrammes cover the integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development; integrated social development; economic development and integration; information and communication technology for regional integration; statistics for evidence-based policymaking; advancement of women and
conflict mitigation and development. The presentation tackled the targets of each subprogramme in detail, in accordance with the expected accomplishments and adopted indicators of achievement.

17. In the discussion that followed this item, participants stressed the need for coordination among member countries in the preparation of the ESCWA proposed strategic framework and for allowing sufficient time for these countries to study its various components, make observations and introduce necessary amendments.

18. Representatives of member countries declared that they had no access to the strategic framework document prior to the meeting, and emphasized the need to provide countries with the opportunity to review the framework and provide observations on it. They pointed as well to the importance of obtaining the documents prior to the meeting to grant countries the time needed to conduct necessary consultation and coordination to make observations, within four weeks as of the end of the meeting.

19. Some delegates noted the necessity to develop quality indicators in addition to the quantitative indicators of the strategic framework. Others believed that some indicators in the framework need to be reviewed, particularly those that are related to activities rather than indicators, whereas some do not accurately reflect the expected achievement.

E. ONGOING PREPARATIONS FOR THE TWENTY-SIXTH ESCWA MINISTERIAL SESSION
   (Item 7 of the agenda)

20. The secretariat announced that the twenty-sixth ministerial session of ESCWA will be held in Beirut on 17-20 May 2010 and will be chaired by Jordan. In the course of preparation for the session, the secretariat proposed three topics for participants to choose from, namely: the role of statistical indicators in crisis management; empowering youth and integrating them into society; and mobilizing financial resources to accelerate socio-economic development. It also proposed the discussion of the following topics in roundtables to be held during the session: food security—adequate policies and mitigation measures; climate change and gender; and human and institutional capacity-building.

21. The secretariat called upon the delegates to adopt one of these topics and propose other subjects of significance to their countries. Some participants noted that financing for development was the theme of the previous ministerial session and therefore the proposal for mobilizing financial resources to accelerate socio-economic development was excluded. Other proposals were suggested such as investment policies in the Arab region and industrial integration. After the vote on these issues, it was agreed that the “role of the youth and their empowerment” be adopted as the main topic of the twenty-sixth ministerial session, while a discussion on “human and institutional capacity-building” will take place at a roundtable during the session. The secretariat was left with the choice of proposing other topics for discussion in roundtables.

F. PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN IMPLEMENTING ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT
   (Item 8 of the agenda)

1. Main activities carried out since July 2009

22. The secretariat made a presentation on main activities implemented since the third meeting of the Technical Committee in July 2009, which included the following:

(a) Fourth session of the Committee on Women

23. The Committee on Women held its fourth session from 21 to 23 October 2009. The main topics discussed included the Consolidated Arab Report on the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action: Beijing + 15 and the promotion of economic participation of Arab women. At the end of the session, the Committee on Women adopted the Consolidated Arab Report and concluded with a set of recommendations
with emphasis on the importance of political will in supporting and promoting gender equality, equity and justice; gender mainstreaming in development policies, strategies and programmes; and giving priority to the advancement of women at both national and regional levels.

(b) **Seventh session of the Committee on Social Development**

24. The Committee on Social Development held its seventh session in Beirut, on 26 and 27 October 2009. The session mainly discussed programmes and activities implemented in the field of social development, as well as reports on social development priority issues, including social integration, participatory social development and youth in the framework of development policies. The Committee adopted a set of recommendations calling for the development of consultation mechanisms of integrated social policy, promoting utilization of ESCWA programmes for institutional and individual capacity-building in participatory development and strengthening national capacities in the formulation and monitoring of national policies targeting youth.

(c) **Arab Forum on Social Policy**

25. The Arab Forum on Social Policy was held in Beirut, on 28 and 29 October 2009. The work of the Forum was divided to five meetings structured along two main, interrelated and complementary themes, namely social policy planning and formulation, and social protection. Participants made a set of recommendations, mainly related to the integration of social policies into national economic plans, seeking to develop practical and coherent implementation plans that take into consideration cultural sensitivities.

(d) **Thirteenth Regional Coordination Mechanism Meeting**

26. The Regional Coordination Mechanism held its thirteenth meeting in Beirut, on 3 and 4 November 2009. The agenda of the meeting consisted of three themes namely regional responses to global crises; strategic regional challenges and priorities; and human rights in the Arab world: new developments and old challenges. The meeting adopted recommendations calling for coordination of work between the Regional Coordination Mechanism and the Regional Directors’ Team on the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals, food security, climate change and youth. Participants also called for coordinating work in these areas horizontally to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations and build statistical capacities to monitor progress in each field of work.

(e) **Expert Group Meeting on Moving the Development Agenda Forward: Opportunities and Potential Gains**

27. The Expert Group Meeting on Moving the Development Agenda Forward: Opportunities and Potential Gains was held in Beirut on 5 and 6 November 2009. The meeting discussed key global and regional development issues that directly affect the future of development in the region. Studies presented during the meeting and resulting discussions focused on climate change; sustainable management of natural resources; youth and opportunities for investment and employment; and regional integration for the purposes of social development. Participants concluded with a set of recommendations on the different topics presented during the meeting.

2. **Follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations adopted at the third meeting of the Technical Committee**

28. At its third meeting, the Technical Committee made a set of recommendations and proposals, some were related to the topics and issues on the agenda, others to the nature of work of the Committee and ESCWA and ways of enhancing it. Document E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/8 (Part II) contains the recommendations which mainly include the adoption of the new communications strategy that was presented to the Committee. The strategy suggests new lines of communication between ESCWA and member countries, among member
countries, and between ESCWA and other organizations working in the region, particularly the League of Arab States and the Gulf Cooperation Council. The secretariat announced that it has initiated the implementation of the recommendation through promotion of communication channels among countries through electronic messages and other communication means.

29. Within this item, the secretariat presented the measures undertaken to implement the recommendations adopted at its third meeting.

G. DATE AND VENUE OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
(Item 9 of the agenda)

30. Participants agreed to hold the fifth meeting of the Technical Committee at ESCWA headquarters in Beirut, on a date to be decided by the secretariat in consultation with the ministerial session office.

III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AT ITS FOURTH MEETING

31. The Technical Committee adopted the recommendations issued in its fourth meeting, which were exposed to it at the end of the meeting. The Committee presented its observations on the recommendations with the proviso that these would incorporate any suggested amendments thereto, and would be included in a comprehensive report on the actions and results of the meeting.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

A. DATE AND VENUE OF THE MEETING

32. The fourth meeting of the Technical Committee was held in the main conference hall at United Nations House in Beirut, on 26 and 27 January 2010. In accordance with the terms of reference of the Technical Committee that stipulate that the chairmanship of the Committee shall coincide with the chairmanship of the ESCWA ministerial session, Yemen chaired this meeting in its capacity as chair of the twenty-fifth ministerial session, held in Sana’a from 26 to 29 May 2008.

B. OPENING

33. The Technical Committee held its fourth meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday 26 January 2010, as it brought together the Executive Secretaries of the five United Nations Commissions who came to Beirut to participate in the regular coordination meeting. Mr. Muhammad Ahmad Al Hawari, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Sector Studies and Economic Projections in Yemen, and chairman of the fourth meeting of the Technical Committee, praised the role of ESCWA in the field of regional integration and its achievements over the past years, particularly in the field of the attainment of the millennium Development Goals. He then drew attention to the developmental and non-developmental challenges faced by the countries of the ESCWA region as a result of policies harmful to the environment that lead to climate change, negatively impacting all countries, especially developing countries that have undergone unprecedented floods and heat and drought waves. Mr. el-Hawari observed also other issues of concern such as the lack of food security, water scarcity, and the current global economic and financial crisis, advising ESCWA to develop a long-term agenda and coordinate efforts exerted by different member countries, in order to be able to face these challenges. He finally recommended the establishment of a general framework to benefit from successful experiences in each country and transfer them to other countries through a meeting held every two years.

34. In his statement, Mr. Bader AlDafa, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCWA, welcomed the participants. Mr. AlDafa recalled the tragic events recently witnessed all over the world, namely the earthquake in Haiti and the Ethiopian plane crash in Lebanon, focusing later
on topics to be discussed by the Committee, including climate change in a region that suffers from water scarcity and drought, food security in a region that relies on imports to meet most of its food needs, and the empowerment of women in a region that requires great efforts in this field despite some registered achievements. The Executive Secretary reiterated the importance of holding on to ESCWA’s role and message in enhancing human rights and values, and achieving sustainable development, in close cooperation with member countries. ESCWA believes that taking the advice of member countries is vital to improve its performance and develop programmes consistent with emerging issues and rapid developments all over the world.

C. PARTICIPANTS

35. The fourth meeting of the Technical Committee was attended by representatives of member countries. A list of participants is included in annex I of this report.

D. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

36. The Technical Committee adopted the agenda of its fourth meeting in its version set forth in document E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/L.1. The agenda in its adopted form was as follows:

1. Opening of the fourth meeting of the Technical Committee.
2. Adoption of agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Consideration of Terms of Reference of the Technical Committee.
4. Views of member countries of ESCWA work: successes and possible areas of improvement.
5. Regional and global priorities: climate change, food security and empowerment of women.
7. Ongoing preparations for the twenty-sixth ESCWA ministerial session.
8. Progress achieved in implementing activities of the secretariat.
   (a) Activities carried out since July 2009;
   (b) Follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations adopted at the third meeting of the Technical Committee.
9. Date and venue of the fifth meeting of the Technical Committee.
10. Other matters.
11. Adoption of the report of the Technical Committee on its fourth meeting.

37. The Technical Committee also examined the proposed organization of work and adopted it in its modified form as set forth in document E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/L.2.

E. DOCUMENTS

38. Annex II of this report contains the series of documents examined by the Technical Committee in its fourth meeting.
Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**Bahrain**

Ms. Lou loua Saleh El-Awadi  
Executive Secretary of the Supreme Council for Women

Ms. Hoda Abdullah Fakhro  
Head of Planning and Road Planning Department  
Ministry of Work

Mr. Kazem El Arid  
Ambassador in the Cabinet of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Abdullah Ali Abdullah  
Director, Water Conservation Department  
Electricity and Water Authority

Dr. Nabil Muhammad Abu Al Fateh  
Undersecretary of the Ministry of Municipalities and Agriculture Affairs

Sheikh Muhammad Ben Khalifa Ben Ali Al Khalifa  
Undersecretary of the Ministry of Transportation

Mr. Khalifa Hassan El Amari  
Administrative Coordinator for the Office of the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Transportation

Mr. Wael Nasser el Mubarrak  
Head of the Planning and Municipal Councils Affairs Directorate  
Ministry of Municipalities and Agriculture Affairs

Mr. Aref Hassan Muhammad El Mansouri  
Head of Human and Financial Resources Directorate  
Ministry of Transportation

**Egypt**

Mr. Karim Taha Khalil  
Diplomat  
Economic Sector  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Muhammad Omar el-Faki  
Second Secretary  
Embassy of Egypt in Beirut

**Iraq**

Ms. Nour El Hachemi  
ESCWA Coordinator in the Embassy of Iraq in Beirut

Mr. Mustapha Ibrahim Al-Imam  
First Secretary  
Embassy of Iraq in Beirut

**Jordan**

Ms. Maha Ali Al Zu’bi  
Director by interim, Projects Department  
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation Department

**Kuwait**

Dr. Hossa Majed Al-Chahin  
Counsellor to the Director  
Women Affairs Committee

Ms. Eman Al-Haddad  
Economic Researcher

Ms. Rania Al-Salem  
Economic Researcher  
Ministry of Finance  
International Economic Cooperation Department

Mr. Saleh Mubarak Al-Saraawi  
Charge d’affaires  
Embassy of Kuwait in Beirut

**Lebanon**

Mr. Abass Rida Mteirek  
Head of Service of Treaties  
Department of International Organizations, Conferences and Cultural Relations  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

Mr. Munir Anouti  
Diplomatic Attaché to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants
Oman

Mr. Hamad ben Jibr ben Saud el-Mahrouki
Director General
Services Sectors Development
Ministry of National Economy

Ms. Souad Bint Mohammad el-Fadhel
Director of the Technical Cooperation Service
Ministry of National Economy

Palestine

Mr. Mahmud Ataya
Acting General Director
Social Sector Planning Directorate
Ministry of Planning

Ambassador Achraf Dabour
Charge d’affaires
Embassy of Palestine in Beirut

Mr. Hassan Dib Chachnia
Media Consultant
Embassy of Palestine in Beirut

Qatar

Mr. Muhammad Said Al-Chakiri Al-Mouhandi
Head of the Marine Environments Inspection
Department
Ministry of Environment

Mr. Saad Abdullah Al-Hatmi
Industrial Inspection Engineer
Ministry of Environment

Mr. Muhammad Hassan Jaber Al-Jaber
Consul
Embassy of Qatar in Beirut

Saudi Arabia

Mr. Bandar Bin Abd el-Aziz el-Wayli
Under-Secretary of the Ministry for Sectors Planning
Planning Expert
Ministry of Economy and Planning

Mr. Abdullah Ali Al-Marwani
Head of Studies and Researches Department
ESCWA Coordinator in Saudi Arabia
Ministry of Economy and Planning

Mr. Ahmad Ali Al-Abdali
Diplomat
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Majed Ben Ramzi Atiya
First Secretary
Head of the Economic Affairs Department
Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Beirut

The Sudan

Mr. Yessen Issa Muhammad
Director General
Ministry of International Cooperation

Mr. Al Hadi Siddik Ali Numeiri
Consultant
Deputy Head of the Delegation
Embassy of the Republic of the Sudan in Beirut

United Arab Emirates

Mr. Muhammad Saleh Chalwah
Under Secretary of the Ministry, Assistant to the Executive Director of Economic Policies Affairs
Ministry of Economy

Mr. Yacoub Youssef Al Mubarak
Minister Plenipotentiary
Economic Affairs Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Hachem Said Al Noueimi
Head of the Consumer Protection Department
Ministry of Economy

Ms. Mona Ali Said Ben Khadem
Head of the Department for Women Development Programmes
Ministry of Social Affairs

Ms. Najiba Muhammad Hassan Muhammad

Yemen

Mr. Muhammad Ahmad el-Hawri
Under-Secretary of the Sector of Studies and Economic Projections
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

Mr. Amin Muhssen Al-Hamadani
Second Secretary
Embassy of Yemen in Beirut
## Annex II

### LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
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<tr>
<td>Provisional agenda and annotations</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/L.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization of work</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/L.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consideration of terms of reference of the Technical Committee</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Views of member countries of ESCWA work: Successes and possible areas of improvement</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional and global priorities: Climate change, food security and empowerment of women</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing preparations for the twenty-sixth ministerial session of ESCWA</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress achieved in implementing activities of the secretariat</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/8</td>
</tr>
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<td>Activities carried out since July 2009</td>
<td>8 (a)</td>
<td>E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/8(Part I)</td>
</tr>
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<td>Follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations adopted at the third meeting of the Technical Committee</td>
<td>8 (b)</td>
<td>E/ESCWA/2010/C.4/8(Part II)</td>
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