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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Committee on Water Resources
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Item 9 of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2010-2011
IN THE FIELD OF WATER RESOURCES**

Summary

The draft programme of work for 2010-2011, pertaining to subprogramme 1, Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development, is submitted for the Committee's review and guidance. Since the instructions for the preparation of the programme budget for 2010-2011 have yet to be issued by the United Nations Headquarters, the secretariat may be required to introduce slight modifications to the outputs, after the Committee's consideration. In addition, the Committee is invited to discuss how the indicators of achievement could be concretely measured, in order to accurately monitor the progress achieved in the member countries, as a result of the delivery of the proposed outputs. The Commission's draft programme of work for 2010-2011, covering all ESCWA seven subprogrammes, was submitted to the Second Meeting of the Technical Committee, scheduled to be held in Beirut on 3 November 2008.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The document presents a set of outputs (products and services), which the secretariat proposes to include in the draft programme of work for 2010-2011, pertaining to subprogramme 1, Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development.

2. According to the United Nations programme planning rules and regulations,¹ these outputs have been proposed within the ESCWA Strategic Framework for 2010-2011, which was endorsed by the Commission at the 25th session (Sana'a, 26-29 May 2008) and modified by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at the 48th session (New York, 9 June - 3 July 2008),² as annexed to this document. The Committee's attention is drawn to the fact that, prior to the Commission's consideration, the draft ESCWA strategic framework for 2010-2011, in its entirety,³ was circulated to member countries and solicited written comments on subprogramme 1 from three of them.⁴

3. It should be noted that the subprogramme objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and strategy, as contained in the annex, can only be modified by the General Assembly, which opened its 63rd session on 16 September 2008 and will conclude its decisions by December 2008.

4. The Committee is noted that, in proposing these outputs, the secretariat has given due consideration to the following:

(a) Major problems in Western Asia, including issues emerging during the implementation of the programme of work for the biennium 2006-2007 and in 2008;

(b) Efforts made in order to achieve the objectives of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, which was the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2002, taking into account achievements at the regional level since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992), with special emphasis on the objective of the sustainable development of water resources;

(c) Request by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to implement the Hashimoto Action Plan, which was drafted by the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation and announced at the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico in 2006;

(d) The Arab Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change (adopted on 6 December 2007) at the nineteenth session of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) which affirmed their countries commitment to adopt national and regional action plans on climate change issues, with a view of assessing possible impacts and developing mitigation and adaptation programmes, and to include climate change related policies in all sectors within national and regional policies for sustainable development;

¹ United Nations, "Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation" (ST/SGB/2000/8, 19 April 2000).

² United Nations, "Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination", Forty-eighth session (9 June - 3 July 2008), Supplement No. 16 A/63/16.

³ Programme of ESCWA comprises seven subprogrammes, including the subprogramme on Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development.

⁴ Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

(e) The outcomes of the twenty-fifth ESCWA session,⁵ that calls upon ESCWA to prepare an assessment of the vulnerability to climate change of economic and social development in the region, with particular emphasis on fresh water resources.

5. Since the instructions for the preparation of the programme budget for 2010-2011 have yet to be issued by the United Nations Headquarters, the secretariat may be required to introduce slight modifications to the outputs, after the Committee's consideration. The draft programme of work for 2010-2011, covering all ESCWA seven subprogrammes, was submitted to the Second Meeting of the Technical Committee, held in Beirut on 3 and 4 November 2008.

6. This review aims to provide an opportunity for member country representatives from the relevant technical field to assess whether there is a realistic link between the proposed outputs and the relevant expected accomplishments, thus contributing to the realization of the expected accomplishments by the end of 2011.

II. ACTIONS REQUIRED BY THE COMMITTEE

7. The Committee is invited to review and provide its guidance to the secretariat on the proposed outputs, based on the following two criteria: (a) to what extent the proposed outputs respond directly to the needs of intended beneficiaries, namely the Water Resources Ministries and Authorities in the ESCWA region; and (b) to what extent the proposed outputs contribute to the realization of the expected accomplishments of subprogramme 1.

8. The Committee is informed of the need to maintain the balance between normative, analytical and operational work. It is advised to take into account the outcome of the deliberations at the present session, especially under Item 5 of the provisional agenda of work pertaining to the potential impact of climate change on water resources and feasible adaptation measures in the ESCWA region.

III. PROPOSED OUTPUTS OF THE DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2010-2011 PERTAINING TO SUBPROGRAMME 1

9. In order to achieve the three expected accomplishments of the subprogramme, the secretariat proposes to deliver the outputs for the Sustainable Development and Productivity Division presented in table 1 to the immediate beneficiaries, principally the Water Resources Ministries and Authorities in the ESCWA region. The specific outputs related to water resources are highlighted in bold.

10. It is anticipated that the subprogramme will achieve the expected accomplishments provided that: (a) ESCWA member countries are willing to adopt and apply sustainable development policies advocated by world summits and other global and regional conferences; (b) there are no significant shortfalls in funding; and (c) political stability is improved, thereby allowing for a more cooperative environment between member countries as well as more effective implementation of technical cooperation activities in the region.

⁵ ESCWA Resolution 281 (XXV), Addressing climate change issues in the Arab region.

TABLE 1. PROPOSED OUTPUTS IN RELATION TO THE EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement	Outputs
<p>(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries to formulate, adopt and implement policies and measures to improve the sustainable management of natural resources, with particular emphasis on fulfilling MDGs and addressing climate change challenges</p>	<p>(a) (i) Increase in the number of policies and measures adopted and/or implemented by member countries, with ESCWA assistance, to improve the sustainable management of natural resources for achieving MDGs, particularly Goals 1 and 7</p>	<p>Parliamentary documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to the Commission on the 9th Session of the Committee on Water Resources • Report to the Commission on the 8th Session of the Committee on Energy • Report on the vulnerability of water sector to climate change and adaptation measures to increase resilience of ESCWA Countries • Report on energy policies and measures for promoting climate change mitigation in ESCWA countries • Report on Policies and Measures Promoting Sustainable Energy Use in the Transport Sector in the ESCWA Region <p>Substantive servicing of meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantive servicing of the meeting of the 9th Session of the Committee on Water Resources • Substantive servicing of the meeting of the 8th Session of the Committee on Energy <p>Recurrent publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Sustainable Development No. 3 • ESCWA Water Development Report No. 4: National Capacities for the Management of Shared Water Resources in ESCWA Countries <p>Technical material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact Sheet on Sustainable Production and Consumption Patterns in the ESCWA Region • Improving Efficiency in the Electric Power Sector in the ESCWA Region <p>Organization of interagency meetings and contribution to joint outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantive contribution to the annual session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18): on the thematic issues of the Commission • Substantive contribution to the annual session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-19): on the thematic issues of the Commission

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement	Outputs
		<p>Technical Cooperation/Field Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support ESCWA Member Countries in the field of water supply and sanitation (GTZ component) • Support ESCWA Member Countries in the field of water resources management (BGR component) • Development Account Project: Capacity Building for Poverty Alleviation and Climate Change Mitigation through the Establishment of an Inter-regional UN Renewable Energy Park <p>Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information kit for the Committee on Energy • Information kit for the Committee on Water Resources • Promotional material for the World Environment Day [2010] • Promotional material for the World Environment Day [2011] • Promotional material for the World Water Day [2010] • Promotional material for the World Water Day [2011] • Promotional material for the Arab Environment Day [2010] • Promotional material for the Arab Environment Day [2011] • Development of promotional material on Water resources issues in the region [2010] • Development of promotional material on Water resources issues in the region [2011] • Development of promotional material on Environment issues in the region [2010] • Development of promotional material on Environment issues in the region [2011] • Development of promotional material on Energy issues in the region [2010] • Development of promotional material on Energy issues in the region [2011]
	<p>(a) (ii) Increase in the number of policies and measures developed, adopted and/or implemented by member countries, with ESCWA assistance, to improve the integrated sustainable management of natural resources, including climate change mitigation and adaptation</p>	<p>Expert Group Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EGM on Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Adaptation Measures in the ESCWA Region <p>Non-recurrent publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptation Measures for Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources in the ESCWA Region <p>Technical cooperation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Cooperation on the Preparation of Action Plans and Formulation of Measures to Combat Climate Change

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement	Outputs
<p>(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to apply best practices and methods for improving sustainable agriculture and rural development, and increasing the productivity and competitiveness of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) using appropriate and affordable environmentally sound technology</p>	<p>(b) (i) Increase in the number of new/existing institutions applying best practices and methods, with ESCWA assistance, to promote sustainable agriculture and rural development</p>	<p>Expert Group Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EGM on Exploring Modalities for the Implementation of the Sustainable Livelihoods Approaches in Support of Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in the ESCWA Region • EGM on the Implementation of Best Practices on Sustainable Land Management in the ESCWA Region in order to Promote Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development <p>Technical Material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of a Training Module on Sustainable Land Management <p>Advisory Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory Services by Staff: Advisory Services to Member States upon request on the Implementation of the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach • Advisory Services by Staff: Advisory Services to Member States upon request on Sustainable Land Management Practices
	<p>(b) (ii) Increase in the number of measures taken by SMEs, with ESCWA assistance, to enhance their competitiveness using appropriate and affordable environmentally sound technology</p>	<p>Expert Group Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EGM on the Production and Use of Biotechnologies in the ESCWA Region • EGM on promoting private sector participation in implementing EE/RE energy projects leading towards sustainable rural development <p>Non-Recurrent Publication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biotechnology Applications for Enhanced Productivity and Competitiveness in the ESCWA Region <p>Booklets, pamphlets, wallcharts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pamphlet on Ways that SMEs can become Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) <p>Technical Material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Material on Opportunities for SME Production and Consumption of Environmental Goods and Services in Selected ESCWA Countries <p>Technical Cooperation/Field Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Account Project, “Enhancing the capacity of the developing countries to implement international standards for commercial agricultural products to improve their trade competitiveness” (led by UNECE for implementation from 2008-2011)

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement	Outputs
		Organization of interagency meetings and contribution to joint outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of substantive contribution to the annual session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-20): on the thematic issues of the Commission*
(c) Strengthened South-South cooperation in the integrated management of natural resources, with a focus on challenges related to water, energy and climate change	(c) (i) Increase in the number of responses to and/or initiatives by member countries concerning participation in ESCWA-promoted South-South cooperation in respect of challenges related to water, energy and climate change	Expert Group Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EGM of the Regional Mechanism for the Development of Energy Uses for Sustainable Development: Cooperation and Regional Integration Issues Booklet, pamphlets, wallcharts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pamphlet on Regional Climate Change Initiatives/Policy Recommendations (AWARENET) • Pamphlet on Electric Interconnections and Gas Networks Technical material: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional implementation report on CSD thematic areas for the years 2012-2013 • Technical Paper on the Application of Lessons Learned and Recommendations adopted by the MENA Regional Conference Series on Renewable Energy • Draft Plan of Action for Improving the Deployment of Renewable Energy Technologies • Impact of Climate Change on Shared Water Resources and regional cooperation on adaptation • Development and maintenance of ESCWA Homepage on Water, Environment, Energy Issues, Agriculture and Enterprise Development [2010] • Development and maintenance of ESCWA Homepage on Water, Environment, Energy Issues, Agriculture and Enterprise Development [2011] Assistance to intergovernmental bodies and/or United Nations representatives/rapporteurs under their established mandates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantive support to the Executive Secretariat of the ESCWA-UNEP-LAS joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region (JCEDAR) and the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Electricity [2010] • Substantive support to the Executive Secretariat of the ESCWA-UNEP-LAS joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region (JCEDAR) and the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Electricity [2011]

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement	Outputs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantive support to the Executive Secretariat of the ESCWA-UNEP-LAS joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region (JCEDAR) and the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Environment [2010] • Substantive support to the Executive Secretariat of the ESCWA-UNEP-LAS joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region (JCEDAR) and the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Environment [2011] • Substantive support and follow-up on selected resolutions taken by the newly established Council of Arab Ministers of Water Resources [2010] • Substantive support and follow-up on selected resolutions taken by the newly established Council of Arab Ministers of Water Resources [2011] <p>Organization of interagency meetings and contribution to joint outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantive support to the UN Coordination bodies, regional and global forums on water, energy, productive sector and environment issues [2010] • Substantive support to the UN Coordination bodies, regional and global forums on water, energy, productive sector and environment issues [2011] • Substantive support to the High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) [2010] • Substantive support to the High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) [2011] <p>Advisory Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory missions at the request of member countries on issues related to sustainable development through the Common Country Assessment and United Nations Development Assistance Framework Process (CCA/UNDAF) [2010] • Advisory missions at the request of member countries on issues related to sustainable development through the Common Country Assessment and United Nations Development Assistance Framework Process (CCA/UNDAF) [2011] <p>Field Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arab Integrated Water Resources Management Network (AWARENET)

* On biotechnology.

Annex I

**ESCWA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR 2010-2011, AS ENDORSED BY THE
COMMISSION AT ITS TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION AND MODIFIED BY THE
COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION
AT ITS FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

**SUBPROGRAMME 1: INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Objective: To achieve integrated sustainable management of natural resources in the ESCWA region, with particular emphasis on water, energy and the production sectors, with due consideration to the relevant climate change issues

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries to formulate, adopt and implement policies and measures to improve the sustainable management of natural resources, with particular emphasis on fulfilling MDGs and addressing climate change challenges	(a) (i) Increase in the number of policies and measures adopted and/or implemented by member countries, with ESCWA assistance, to improve the sustainable management of natural resources for achieving MDGs, particularly Goals 1 and 7 (ii) Increased number of policies and measures developed, adopted and/or implemented by member countries, with ESCWA assistance, to improve the integrated sustainable management of natural resources, including climate change mitigation and adaptation
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to apply best practices and methods for improving sustainable agriculture and rural development, and increasing the productivity and competitiveness of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) using appropriate and affordable environmentally sound technology	(b) (i) Increase in the number of new/existing institutions applying best practices and methods, with ESCWA assistance, to promote sustainable agriculture and rural development (ii) Increase in the number of measures taken by small and medium-scale enterprises, with ESCWA assistance, to enhance their competitiveness using appropriate and affordable environmentally sound technology
(c) Strengthened South-South cooperation in the integrated management of natural resources, with a focus on challenges related to water, energy and climate change	(c) Increase in the number of responses to and/or initiatives by member countries concerning participation in ESCWA-promoted South-South cooperation in respect of challenges related to water, energy and climate change

Strategy

Responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the Sustainable Development and Productivity Division. The capacity to manage natural resources in a sustainable manner in the region needs to be developed, in particular, energy, water and land resources, which are being increasingly affected by climate change. This necessitates enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of production and consumption patterns in the water, energy and production sectors, in particular with respect to the use of fossil fuels and associated greenhouse gas emissions, and the use of scarce water resources, adversely affects their quality. Furthermore, enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of production and consumption patterns in the

water, energy and the production sectors, especially agriculture, would also contribute to redressing land, degradation and desertification symptoms. Inadequate energy and water supplies and sanitation services in rural, remote and poor urban areas, and limited use of sustainable environmental technologies adversely affect opportunities for employment creation and income generation.

The subprogramme will concentrate on facilitating the formulation, adoption and implementation of integrated sustainable development strategies and policies in the light of the relevant global mandates arising from the outcome of the 2005 World Summit, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the attainment of MDGs, particularly Goal 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger and Goal 7 on ensuring environmental sustainability, in addition to the outcome of the 2007 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali, Indonesia.

The subprogramme will continue to:

(a) Advocate and promote sustainable production and consumption patterns of energy and water resources, including improved access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by a wider section of the region's population, especially disadvantaged groups;

(b) Serve as a forum for promoting policy dialogue as a means of enhancing synergy between the countries of the region in sustainable development priority issues, including climate change adaptation and mitigation;

(c) Facilitate cooperation between member countries in the management of shared water resources and development of energy networks;

(d) Increase awareness of the possible impact of climate change on water resources, and potential natural disasters and the precautionary measures required;

(e) Support national and regional capacity-building, especially in the fields of integrated management of water resources, energy efficiency, renewable energy (solar, wind and biomass) applications, cleaner fossil fuels, sustainable agriculture and rural development;

(f) Facilitate regional coordination and preparation for the implementation of regional and global commitments on sustainable development, in particular on the thematic areas to be addressed by the Commission on Sustainable Development.

The subprogramme will also support SMEs, in order to enable them to take advantage of opportunities presented by the provision and use of appropriate and affordable environmentally sound technologies to enhance their productivity and competitiveness in a sustainable manner.

That will be achieved by undertaking quality research and analytical work; disseminating best practices; building capacity and rendering advisory services on priority sustainable development issues; promoting South-South cooperation through partnerships with other regional commissions and organizations, in particular the League of Arab States, GCC, the United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for West Asia (UNEP-ROWA), the Secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification, the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization; and strengthening ESCWA regional mechanisms for coordination on energy and water as regional forums for advancing such sustainable development issues as those identified in UN-Water and UN-Energy and by the UNEP Environmental Management Group.

Annex II

LEGISLATIVE MANDATES

All subprogrammes

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/270 A and B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
60/2	Policies and programmes involving youth (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 5)
60/265	Follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals
61/1	Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
61/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States
61/16	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
61/49	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference
61/157	Human rights and extreme poverty
61/213	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)
61/266	Multilingualism
62/161	The right to development
62/199	Globalization and interdependence
62/203	Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
62/208	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
62/209	South-South cooperation
62/211	Towards global partnerships

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1818 (LV)	Establishment of an economic commission for Western Asia
1985/69	Amendment of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Western Asia: change of name of the Commission
1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
2005/50	The Damascus Declaration and the role of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals,

including those contained in the Millennium Declaration

- 2006/14 Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/250 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
- 2007/29 Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16
- 2007/31 Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
- 2007/33 Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

- 258 (XXIII) Strengthening technical cooperation in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
- 260 (XXIII) Development and regional cooperation under unstable conditions
- 261 (XXIII) Strengthening the cooperation between ESCWA and the League of Arab States in the field of economic and social development
- 263 (XXIII) Promoting partnership and resource mobilization
- 268 (XXIII) Adoption of the final reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
- 269 (XXIV) The role of ESCWA in the light of the 2005 World Summit Outcome document and the subsequent change process
- 272 (XXIV) Youth employment in ESCWA member countries

Subprogramme 1

Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development

General Assembly resolutions

- 57/253 World Summit on Sustainable Development
- 59/228 Activities undertaken during the International Year of Freshwater, 2003, preparations for the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources
- 59/235 Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
- 60/200 International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006
- 61/215 Industrial development cooperation
- 62/189 Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
- 62/190 Agricultural technology for development
- 62/193 Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
- 62/197 Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy

Economic and Social Council resolution

2004/48 Coordinated and integrated United Nations system approach to promoting rural development in developing countries, with due consideration to least developed countries, for poverty eradication and sustainable development

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolution

255 (XXIII) The establishment of a regional mechanism for building capacities to manage shared water resources