

## **ECOSOC Resolution 2005/37**

### **Statute of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolution 58/5 of 22 May 2002 on the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery,

*Recalling also* the agreement between the Government of China and the United Nations regarding the headquarters of the Centre, signed on 19 November 2003,

*Noting with appreciation* the significant financial resources and facilities that have been provided to the Centre, since its establishment, by the Government of China,

1. *Approves* the revised statute of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery, as adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to seek regular budget resources for the Centre, including posts, within the proposed programme budget of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for the biennium 2006-2007, to strengthen the research and analytical capacity of the Centre, while recognizing the primary role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee in this regard, and also recognizing the principle that the technical assistance activities of the Centre should be funded by voluntary contributions;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to seek additional voluntary resources to strengthen the financial stability of the Centre.

*39th plenary meeting  
26 July 2005*

#### **Annex**

#### **Statute of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery**

##### **Establishment**

1. The Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery, established on 22 May 2002 pursuant to Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolution 58/5 of the same date, shall continue in existence under the title "United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery" (hereinafter referred to as "UNAPCAEM" or "the Centre") and under the terms of the present statute.

2. The membership of the Centre shall be identical to the membership of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (hereinafter referred to as "ESCAP" or "the Commission").

3. The Centre has the status of a subsidiary body of ESCAP.

### **Objectives**

4. The objectives of the Centre are to enhance technical cooperation among the members and associate members of ESCAP as well as other interested States Members of the United Nations, through extensive exchange of information and sharing of commercially successful machinery and technology, and to promote research and development and extension of agricultural engineering including machinery and rural industry for poverty reduction in the region.

### **Functions**

5. The Centre shall achieve the above objectives by undertaking such functions as:

(a) Assistance in the improvement of agricultural engineering, mechanization, automation, biotechnology and genetic engineering;

(b) Enhancement of farm mechanization technologies in addressing issues related to subsistence farming for increased food security and poverty reduction and promoting agro-based small and medium-sized enterprise development and commercial farming to seize opportunities for increased market access and agro-food trade;

(c) A focus on an agro-based enterprise cluster concept and enterprise development activities to enhance the capabilities of members in identifying potential agricultural commodities in their respective countries on a clustering basis;

(d) Regional cooperation in technology transfer through networking of focal point national institutes in the Centre member countries and other relevant institutions;

(e) Setting up an interactive Internet website to allow members full access to information and technology databases, including the sharing of expert systems and decision support systems in financial management of small and medium-sized enterprises;

(f) Promotion of the technology transfer process from research and development institutes to the agricultural and farm machinery extension systems in member countries for poverty reduction;

(g) Dissemination and exchange of commercially successful machinery and drawings of appropriate tools, machines and equipment;

(h) Training workshops and advisory services on food safety standards and sanitary and phytosanitary issues under the World Trade Organization agricultural trade mandate;

(i) Tapping the resources of developed countries in building the capacity of member countries.

### **Status and organization**

6. The Centre shall have a Governing Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Council"), a Director, a Deputy Director, subject to the availability of funds, other staff and a Technical Committee.

7. The Centre is located in Beijing.
8. The activities of the Centre shall be in line with relevant policy decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission. The Centre shall be subject to the Financial and Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and the applicable administrative instructions.

### **Governing Council**

9. The Governing Council shall consist of a representative designated by the Government of China and eight representatives nominated by other members and associate members of ESCAP elected by the Commission. The members and associate members elected by the Commission shall be elected for a period of three years but shall be eligible for re-election. The Executive Secretary of the Commission or his/her representative shall attend the meetings of the Council.
10. The Director of the Centre shall serve as Secretary of the Council.
11. Representatives of (a) States that are not members of the Council, (b) United Nations bodies and specialized and related agencies and (c) such other organizations as the Council may deem appropriate, as well as experts in fields of interest to the Council, may be invited by the Executive Secretary to attend meetings of the Council.
12. The Council shall meet at least once a year and may adopt its own rules of procedure. Sessions of the Council shall be convened by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP, who may propose special sessions of the Council at his/her own initiative and shall convene such special sessions at the request of a majority of Council members.
13. A quorum for meetings of the Council shall be a majority of its members.
14. Each member of the Council shall have one vote. Decisions and recommendations of the Council shall be made by consensus or, when that is not possible, by a majority of the members present and voting.
15. The Council shall, at each regular session, elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. They shall hold office until the next regular session of the Council. The Chairperson or, in his/her absence, the Vice-Chairperson shall preside at the meetings of the Council. If the Chairperson is unable to serve for the full term for which he/she has been elected, the Vice-Chairperson shall act as Chairperson for the remainder of that term.
16. The Council shall review the administrative and financial status of the Centre and the implementation of its programme of work. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP shall submit an annual report, as adopted by the Council, to the Commission at its annual sessions.

### **Director and staff**

17. The Centre shall have a Director, a Deputy Director subject to availability of funds, and staff, who shall be ESCAP staff members appointed under the appropriate United Nations regulations, rules and administrative instructions. The Director shall be appointed in a manner consistent with United Nations regulations and rules. The Council will

be invited to nominate candidates for the position of Director, once the vacancy is announced, and provide advice, as appropriate. Other members and associate members of the Commission may also submit nominations for the post.

18. The Director shall be responsible to the Executive Secretary of ESCAP for the administration of the Centre and the implementation of its programme of work.

#### **Technical Committee**

19. The Centre shall have a Technical Committee consisting of experts from members and associate members of ESCAP and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Members and associate members of ESCAP will be invited to propose candidates for the Technical Committee. Members of the Technical Committee shall be appointed by the Director in consultation with the Executive Secretary. The Director may also invite governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental institutions to propose experts who would best contribute to Technical Committee discussions on a specific topic.

20. The Technical Committee shall be responsible for advising the Director on the formulation of the programme of work and on other technical matters concerning the operations of the Centre.

21. Reports of meetings of the Technical Committee, with the Director's observations thereon, shall be submitted to the Council at its next session.

22. The Chairperson of the Technical Committee shall be elected by the Committee itself at each meeting.

#### **Resources of the Centre**

23. All members and associate members of ESCAP should be encouraged to make a regular annual contribution to the operations of the Centre. The United Nations shall administer a joint contribution trust fund in which those contributions shall be deposited.

24. The Centre will endeavour to mobilize sufficient resources to support its activities.

25. The United Nations shall maintain separate trust funds for voluntary contributions for technical cooperation projects or other extraordinary voluntary contributions for activities of the Centre.

26. The financial resources of the Centre shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.

#### **Amendments**

27. Amendments to the present statute shall be adopted by the Commission.

#### **Matters not covered by the present statute**

28. In the event of any procedural matter arising that is not covered by the present statute or rules of procedure adopted by the Governing

Council under paragraph 12 of the present statute, the pertinent part of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific shall apply.

**Entry into force**

29. The present statute shall enter into force on the date of its adoption by the Commission. Members and associate members elected to the Governing Board of the Centre at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission will serve as members of the Governing Council of the Centre until the sixty-second session of the Commission, in 2006.