

**DECISIONS  
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE SPECA GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**(Bangkok, 28 November 2012)**

**Decision 1 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/1)**

The Governing Council notes with satisfaction the outcomes of the SPECA Economic Forum “Strengthening Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Central Asia by Sharing the Asian Experience” held in Bangkok on 27 and 28 November 2012. It acknowledges the relevance of the experience of Asian economic cooperation and integration organizations for the SPECA region. It encourages continued discussion within the SPECA framework of relevant Asian, European and Eurasian experiences with a view of facilitating a step-by-step process of building up organizational and institutional support to regional economic cooperation and integration among SPECA member countries.

**Decision 2 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/2)**

The Governing Council notes with appreciation the outcomes of the side event “Review of Work in the SPECA Framework in Support of Implementation of the Decisions of the V Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan” held in Bangkok on 26 November 2012. It welcomes the expression of support to the development and implementation of projects facilitating regional economic cooperation between Afghanistan and neighbouring countries. It calls upon multilateral and bilateral donors to provide increased funding to such projects.

**Decision 3 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/3)**

The Governing Council notes with satisfaction the briefing on the Subregional Workshop on the Millennium Development Goals and the Post 2015 Development Framework for Central and East Asia that took place in Almaty on 26-28 September 2012. It encourages the more active use of the SPECA framework to raise the awareness of policymakers and experts about the benefits of regional cooperation in enhancing the ability of their countries to successfully achieve UN development goals and other relevant priorities set forth by UN summits.

**Decision 4 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/4)**

The Governing Council notes with appreciation the Progress Reports on the work carried out by the SPECA Project Working Groups since its last session. It expresses satisfaction with the broad scope of activities and the stability of extrabudgetary funding received by SPECA projects.

**Decision 5 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/5)**

The Governing Council approves the broadened Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Project Working Group on Knowledge-based Development (PWG). It expresses its hope that the revised ToR will facilitate more active project implementation by the PWG.

**Decision 6 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/6)**

The Governing Council approves the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Project Working Group on Statistics. It expresses its hope that the ToR will contribute to the continued effective management and highly professional activities of the PWG.

**Decision 7 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/7)**

The Governing Council notes with satisfaction the report on the work of the Joint ESCAP/UNECE SPECA Office. It encourages strengthening the role of the Office in project implementation within the SPECA framework.

**Decision 8 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/8)**

The Governing Council notes with satisfaction the report on cooperation between SPECA and regional organizations and institutions. It urges to develop partnerships with partner organizations and donors in strategic areas of regional cooperation in addition to regular information exchange and coordination.

**Decision 9 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/9)**

The Governing Council takes note with appreciation of the Proposals on strengthening SPECA presented by the ESCAP and UNECE secretariats. It expresses its conviction that these Proposals can substantially increase the relevance and effectiveness of the Programme as well as its ownership by member countries. It welcomes the offer by the Executive Secretaries of ESCAP and UNECE to undertake consultations in the capitals of SPECA member countries on these Proposals in the course of 2013. The Governing Council requests the ESCAP and UNECE secretariats to present the draft Proposals on a comprehensive programme to strengthen SPECA to its next session in the last quarter of 2013.

**Decision 10 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/10)**

The Governing Council welcomes the offer by the Government of Kazakhstan to take over the Chairmanship of SPECA starting 29 November 2012. It elects Kazakhstan as the Chair country of SPECA for the period of 2012 and 2013.

**Decision 11 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/11)**

The Governing Council expresses its sincere gratitude to the Government of Kazakhstan for its offer to host the eighth session of the Governing Council and the 2013 SPECA Economic Forum in the last quarter of 2013. The exact date and venue of these events will be decided through consultations with the host country and SPECA member countries.

**Decision 12 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/12)**

The Governing Council welcomes with appreciation the offer by the Government of Afghanistan to take over the Chairmanship of SPECA for the period 2013-2014.

**Decision 13 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/13)**

The Governing Council expresses its gratitude to Turkmenistan for the active work as the Chair country of SPECA between 2010 and 2012.

**Decision 14 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/14)**

The Governing Council expresses its sincere gratitude to ESCAP for the excellent organization and hospitality offered to the participants of the 2012 SPECA Economic Forum and the seventh session of the SPECA Governing Council.

**Decision 15 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2012/15)**

The Governing Council expresses its deep appreciation to the secretariats of ESCAP and UNECE and their Executive Secretaries for their efforts to organize these important annual events and also expresses its special appreciation for their active work aimed at strengthening SPECA and continued support to Programme implementation.

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