

investment data; programmes and mechanisms for regional trade promotion and cooperation; the expansion of investment and technology transfer; human resource development; regional energy cooperation; marine resource conservation; and telecommunications.

Further progress in functional cooperation across Asia Pacific will strengthen links among some North Pacific countries; however, given resolved questions of membership in functional cooperative institutions, it is uncertain whether it will contribute to the development of a North Pacific identity or open avenues for enhanced dialogue.

The list of functional mechanisms in the South Asia, South East Asia, and South Pacific sub-regions provides some indication of areas of functional cooperation which might be developed in the North Pacific, as do the work programs of PECC and APEC. The list of areas for functional cooperation is potentially limitless, and possibilities include:

- the environment and natural resources (including energy conservation and development of sources of renewable energy; management of natural resources; conservation of flora and fauna both in general and with regard to particular species; environmental education; waste management; regional sustainable development post-UNCED 1992; driftnet and other fishing controls; aquaculture and coastal resource management; environmental planning and administration; regional effects of climate change; transboundary air pollution and other forms of environmental degradation);
- emerging unconventional security issues including international terrorism, the illicit traffic in narcotics, and international criminal activity;
- disaster relief co-operation including both natural and human disasters;
- development and harmonization of communications and transportation technology;
- development of regional tourism;
- agricultural development and animal health (including rural livestock, agriculture and resource development and the eradication or control of livestock diseases);