
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2016

Bangkok, 3-5 April 2016

Tentative programme

Saturday, 2 April 2016
(preparatory)

12:00-13:00 **Registration**

13:00-17:00 **Preparatory meeting of senior officials on the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the form and function of the APFSD**

Following the agreement at APFSD 2015, representatives from Member Countries will consider the draft road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and agree on a text to be further considered and finally adopted during the APFSD. The meeting will also discuss proposals on the form, function and modalities of the APFSD.

Day 1: Sunday, 3 April 2016

08:00-09:00 **Registration**

09:00-09:50 **Opening Session**

Address by the Chair

H.E. Mr. Siaosi 'Ofa ki Vahafola Sovaleni, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Environment, Tonga and APFSD 2015 Chair

Welcome

Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP

Statement from Thailand

H.E. Mr. Don Pramudwinai, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Thailand

Remarks

Ms. Mai Naomi Thang and Mr. Sanjeet Aggarwal, Youth representatives

Prof. Hironori Hamanaka, Chair of the Board of Directors, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

* E/ESCAP/FSD(3)/L.1.

** This document is being issued without formal editing.

- 09:50 -10:00** **Election of the Bureau and adoption of the agenda**
- 10:00-10:20** **Break, photo session and Pavilion of Partnerships for Sustainable Development**
- 10:20-12:00** **Session 1: Regional priorities for implementation: Overview**
- This session will initiate regional dialogue on priorities for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, presenting a preliminary assessment of the status of implementation of the SDGs. The session will explore regional megatrends that impact the needs and abilities of individual countries, as well as their development outcomes. The session will make recommendations on priorities for regional action and support to national governments.
- What is the status of SDG implementation across the region?
 - How should regional megatrends influence regional priorities?
 - What are potential roles and priority areas for regional action, coordination and networks?
- Video on status of SDG implementation in Asia and the Pacific*
- Address*
- Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP “SDG priorities and ESCAP response”
- High-level roundtable*
- Moderator:** H.E. Mr. Jonas Leones, Undersecretary for Environment and International Environmental Affairs, Philippines
- H.E. Mr. Battserreg Namdag, Minister of Environment, Green Development and Tourism of Mongolia
 - H.E. Mr. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife, Sri Lanka
 - H.E. Mr. Constancio da Conceicao Pinto, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Environment, Timor-Leste
 - H.E. Mr. Ilyosiddin Kamolitdinov, Deputy Minister of Economy, Tajikistan
 - H.E. Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
- 11:30-12:00** **Country and stakeholder statements**
- 12:00-12:30** **Lunch**
- 12:30-14:00** **Associated event on Voluntary National Reviews**
- Moderator:** Ms. Oyun Sanjaasuren, Member of the State Great Khural and President of the United Nations Environment Assembly
- Presentation from UNDESA
 - Presentation, Environment and Development Division, ESCAP
- Panellists:**
- Ms. Xie Zhangwei, Department of International Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, China
 - Ms. Erlinda Capones, Director, National Economic Development Authority, Philippines
 - Mr. Won Do-yeon, Director, Multilateral Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Seoul, Republic of Korea

- Ms. Noumea Simi, CEO Foreign Affairs and Trade, Samoa
- Ms. Pratana Disyatat, Acting Director of Development Affairs Division, Department of International Organizations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand

Discussant:

- Dr. Shamsul Alam, Member, Senior Secretary, GED, Planning Commission of Bangladesh

14:00-15:20**Session 2: Regional priorities for implementation: Statistics and mainstreaming of the SDGs to address vulnerability**

The year 2016 is the first year of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Identifying regional priorities, informed by region-specific conditions, therefore would be a critical first step in its implementation. With particular focus on social vulnerabilities faced by the region, this session will highlight the importance of data and need of systematic analysis of SDGs for this purpose and make recommendations on priority areas for regional action and support to national governments.

- Which groups are amongst the most vulnerable in Asia and the Pacific and are currently being “left behind”? Where do the most important regional vulnerabilities lie?
- How can better data and more effective and integrated analysis support progress on identifying regional priorities and reducing vulnerabilities?
- What approaches and tools, including through modelling, can be used to facilitate mainstreaming of SDGs in policy frameworks?
- What are potential roles and priority areas for regional action, coordination and networks?

Introduction by the Secretariat**High-level Roundtable**

Moderator: H.E. Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, Minister of Planning, Development and Reform, Pakistan

- H.E. Mr. Yuba Raj Khaiwada, Vice-chairman of the National Planning Commission of Nepal
- H.E. Mr. Emmanuel F. Esguerra, Secretary of Socioeconomic Planning, Philippines
- H.E. Mr. Sonam Wangchuk, Secretary, Gross National Happiness Commission (GNHC), Bhutan
- Mr. Sefuiva Reupena Muagututia, Government Statistician, Samoa Bureau of Statistics, Samoa
- Prof. Panmao Zhai, IPCC WG I Co-Chair
- Dr. Santosh Mehrotra, Professor of Economics, Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University

15:00-15:20**Country and stakeholder statements****15:20-15:40****Break and Pavilion of Partnerships for Sustainable Development****15:40-17:00****Session 3: Regional Road Map for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Form and Function of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, including Follow-Up and Review Process**

This session will support the process of adoption of a road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and

the Pacific, as requested at the 2015 session of the APFSD. The draft road map and proposals regarding the form, function and modalities of the Forum will be presented, and subject to the views of member states, adopted.

- Does the proposed road map draft present a framework for effective support to member states for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda? In what ways can the proposal be strengthened?
- Do the proposals regarding the form, function and modalities of the APFSD provide effective support to member states on implementation of the 2030 Agenda? In what ways can they be strengthened?

Introduction by the Secretariat

Report by the Chair of the Preparatory Meeting

15:55-17:00

Country and stakeholder statements

17:00-17:30

Launch of the “Transformations for Sustainable Development” Report

- Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary of ESCAP
- Prof. Anthony Capon, Director, United Nations University International Institute for Global Health
- Prof. Hironori Hamanaka, Chair of the Board of Directors, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies
- Mr. Henk Verbeek, Senior Administration Officer, United Nations Environment Programme

17:45-19:00

Reception

Day 2: Monday, 4 April 2016

09:00-10:00

Session 3: Regional Road Map for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Form and Function of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, including Follow-Up and Review Process (ctd)

Country and stakeholder statements

10:00-10:20

Break and Pavilion of Partnerships for Sustainable Development

10:20-12:00

Session 4: Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development

This session will highlight how science, technology and innovation (STI) can be used to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development. It will also emphasize why inclusive and collaborative approaches to innovation are critical to meet the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda, and make recommendations in this regard.

- What could we learn from countries in the region who have implemented integrated STI policies?
- How could governments incentivize the private sector to harness STI for the social and environmental as well as the economic imperative?
- How could we bridge the digital divide to ensure that no one is left behind?
- What approach should ESCAP take to facilitate effective

regional STI collaboration and action?

- What is the UN doing globally to stimulate technology collaboration - how will the Technology Facilitation Mechanism address regional priorities?
- How do we measure progress on STI for sustainable development?

Introduction by the Secretariat

Panel Discussion

Moderator: Mr. Ashvin Dayal, Managing Director Asia, Rockefeller Foundation

Panellists:

- H.E. Dr. Pichet Durongkaveroj, Minister of Science and Technology, Thailand
- Ms. Elenita Daño, Member, United Nations 10-Member Group to support the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and Asia Director, Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration (ETC Group), Philippines
- Dr. Tracy Farrell, Regional Director of Greater Mekong Program, Conservation International
- Ms. Bettina G. Quimson, e-Society, Information and Communications Technology Office - Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Philippines
- Mr. Darlington Akaiso, Enterprise Risk & Solutions, IFC
- Mr. Akash Bhavsar, Managing Director, Skyquest Technology Group, India

11:40-12:00

Country and stakeholder statements

12:00-12:30

Lunch

12:30-14:00

Associated event on SDG 6

Moderator: Mr. Hongjoo Hahm, Deputy Executive Secretary, ESCAP

Panellists:

- H.E. Mr. Sulton Rahimzoda, Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Resources of Republic of Tajikistan
- H.E. Mr. Vasantha Senanayake, State Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources of Sri Lanka
- Mr. Ravi Narayanan, Chair, Governing Council, Asia-Pacific Water Forum
- Ms. Santha Sheela Nair, Vice Chairman of the Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission, India
- Mr. Jack Sim, President, World Toilet Organization, Singapore
- Dr. Sonali Senaratna Sellamuttu, Office Head & Senior Researcher - Livelihood Systems, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
- Mr. Abdullah Keizrul Bin, Chairperson, Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO)

12:30-14:00

Associated event on SDG 10

Moderator: H.E. Mr. S.B. Dissanayake, Minister of Social Empowerment & Welfare, Sri Lanka

Panellists:

- Ms. Piyanuch Wuttisorn, Director Social Data-based and Indicator Development Office, National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDP), Thailand
- Ms. Rodelyn Marte, Executive Director of Asia Pacific Council of AIDS Services Organizations (APCASO)
- Ms. Sukti Dasgupta, Head/Senior Economist ILO Regional Office

14:00-16:50

Session 5: Making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable: regional priorities and opportunities

This session will discuss the significance of building inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities in the region, noting the shifts needed. While highlighting concrete examples of how cities can take the lead in implementing global agendas, participants will discuss key challenges, such as the preparedness of cities to focus and deliver on the SDGs, resources limitations as well as the need for data to support policy and track progress, and the importance of institutional coordination and alignment with national implementation policies. The discussion will also discuss and identify potential roles and priority areas for regional action, coordination and networks in the implementation of the urban 2030.

- What are the policy and governance shifts needed to build inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities in the region?
- How can the SDGs be effectively aligned with existing planning priorities and frameworks? What opportunities may come from change?
- How can resource limitations, including data, be addressed?
- How can local governments forge effective partnerships with civil society organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to implement internationally agreed development goals? What are examples of good practices across the region?
- How can local governments shift from competitive to collaborative governance approaches and foster integrated and cross-sectoral solutions to shared urban challenges? What are examples of good practices across the region?
- What concrete action is required from central government to enable local governments to achieve internationally agreed goals at the local level? What are examples of good practices across the region?

Panel discussion

Moderator: Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary of ESCAP

Panellists:

- Hon. Powes Parkop, Governor of Port Moresby and MP, Papua New Guinea
- Ms. Kalpana Srivastava, Commissioner, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, India
- Mr. Bauyrzhan Baibek, Mayor of Almaty, Kazakhstan
- Mr. Yogeshwar Parajuli, Development Commissioner, Kathmandu Valley Development Authority, Nepal
- Mr. Romano Reo, Mayor of Betio, Kiribati
- Mr. Jeonghee Lee, Director General for International Urban Development Cooperation of Seoul Metropolitan Government, Republic of Korea

- Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Mayor of Seberang Perai, Malaysia

16:10-16:40 **Country and stakeholder statements**

16:40-17:00 **Session 6: Other matters**

Day 3: Tuesday, 5 April 2016

10:00-10:25 **Special Event on Global Partnership on Sustainable Development Data**

Welcome remarks

- Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary of ESCAP
- Prof. Sanjeev Khagram, Coordinator of the Global Partnership

10:25-11:10 **Panel Discussion**

Moderator: Professor Sanjeev Khagram, Coordinator of the Global Partnership

Panelists:

- Mr. Romeo S. Recide, Deputy National Statistician, Sectoral Statistics Office, Philippine Statistics Authority
- Ms. Amparo Ballivian, Lead Economist, Open Government Data Working Group, World Bank

11:20-12:30

Panel Discussion

Moderator: Professor Sanjeev Khagram, Coordinator of the Global Partnership

Panelists:

- Ms. Saadiya Razzaq, Team Leader/ Senior Research Associate, Sustainable Development Policy Institute
- Mr. Pranav Budhathoki, Founder and CEO, Local Interventions Group
- Representative of ESRI Asia

12:30-13:00

Lunch

13:00-15:00

Side events

- Building Knowledge Partnerships: Academia and UN System Knowledge Platforms for Advancing the SDGs (UNESCO, The Sustainability Platform, Chulalongkorn Global Network)
- Achieving gender equality and women's empowerment: transforming economies, realizing Agenda 2030 (Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women-UNDP, ESCAP, UNWOMEN, UNFPA)
- How ready are we to build inclusive and engaging societies? (ESCAP)

15:00-15:30

Session 7: Review of the Chair's Summary and adoption of the report

15:30-16:00

Closing of the forum