

*Private sector must become part of the regional agenda and should be a part of the SDGs story*

**ESCAP Sustainable Business Network Task Force on Disaster Risk Reduction**  
**Mr. Asif Ibrahim, Chairman**

**Stakeholder's Statement in 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**

**Monday 09:00 – 10:00**

Honourable Chair, ladies and gentlemen,

The private sector is the engine of development for both industry and the services sector. By the virtue of their allocation and use of resources and productive processes, businesses become key player that contribute to the SDGs attainment in Asia Pacific region. Given the reality that natural disasters and impacts of climate change have become the “new normal” in the region, private sector inevitable have to play key role in sustainable development by ensuring that business decisions and production processes are increasingly resilient for the sake of its own profitability as well as the survival of the society. Corporate resilience calls for risk-informed investment strategies and responsive business practices – reconciling profit motivation and what is beneficial to building resilience of the society.

APFSD as an avenue for SDGs policy dialogue should integrate the businesses’ perspectives, contribution, and accountability framework to safeguard the attainment of SDGs. APFSD should encourage both government and business leaders to promote the support and protection for SMEs, helping to strengthen their resilience in the face of disaster and climate risks.

APFSD should encourage public sector to take a more active and substantive role in incentivizing risk-sensitive corporate practices. This include establishing supportive policy environments, creating monetary and non-monetary incentive frameworks for business to behave more responsibly and to subscribe to disaster resilient approaches while imposing strict penalties for reckless investments and noncompliance to disaster risk reduction norms and standards.

ESBN Task force on DRR has been promoting business efficiency and productivity while also striving for better business continuity in production, supply chain, and other downstream processes. The Task Force reinforces corporate governance frameworks, which promote the compliance of business models and practices to ensure the adherence to principles of business continuity for resilience.

To ensure real progress in implementing the SDGs, we need frameworks for collaboration between public sector and business communities including through Chambers of Commerce at national and regional level. We need to make sure that APFSD would transform into the apex of regional dialogue to elevate public-private partnership good practices into regional norms, standards, and policies.

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Thank you