Draft as of 15 April 2022

UNITED NATIONS ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Subregional Office for North and Central Asia

Expert Group Meeting on
"Implementing the Vienna Programme of Action in North and Central Asia"
19-20 April 2022 | Venue: Zoom

Programme

** All times are stated in Almaty time (GMT+6).*

Day/Time	Session
Tuesday, 19 April 2022	
10:00 – 12:00	Opening Session • Welcome remarks *by Mr. Nikolay Pomoshchnikov, Head, Subregional Office for North and Central Asia, ESCAP* Session 1: Mapping Vienna Programme of Action priority areas within national strategies of North and Central Asia This session will showcase how national strategies of North and Central Asian countries have correspond with the VPoA and discuss how VPoA priority areas can be further mainstreamed in national strategies. The expert group is expected to identify national developmental needs and gaps in implementing the VPoA Roadmap in North and Central Asian LLDCs and suggest areas where development partners could further support implementation of the VPoA. *Moderator: Mr. Oliver Paddison, Chief, Countries with Special Situations Section, ESCAP* • Presentation *by Ms. Savia Hasanova, Consultant, ESCAP* • Remarks by expert group - *Mr. Iskandar Abdullaev, Deputy Director, CAREC Institute* - *Mr. Akbar Khodaei, Director of Transport and Communication, Economic Cooperation Organization* - *Ms. Saodat Jurahonzoda, Deputy Director, Center for Strategic Studies of Tajikistan* • Open discussion • Concluding remarks
12:00 – 14:00	Break

UNITED NATIONS ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Subregional Office for North and Central Asia

Day/Time	Session
14.00 – 16:00	<u>Session 2: Digital potential to advance implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in North and Central Asia</u> This session will discuss digitalization efforts in North and Central Asia. The expert group is expected to analyze the level of digitalization in North and Central Asia, especially in each of the action areas of the VPoA Roadmap and identify potential areas for digitalization that can support implementation of the action areas listed in the Roadmap. *Moderator: Ms. Michiko Enomoto, Deputy Head, Subregional Office for North and Central Asia, ESCAP* • Presentation on the Roadmap for the establishment of a Digital Solutions Center for Central Asia *by Ms. Tiziana Bonapace, Director, ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, ESCAP* • Presentation on ICT Capacity Building Activities in Central Asia *by Mr. Kiyoung Ko, APCICT, ESCAP* • Remarks by expert group - *Mr. Dulguun Damdin-Od, Executive Director, International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries* - *Ms. Tattu Mambetalieva, Director, Civil Initiative on Internet Policy* - *Ms. Irina Divakova, UN Engagement Officer, International Telecommunication Union* • Open discussion • Concluding remarks
Wednesday, 20 April 2022	
10:00 – 12:00	<u>Policy Dialogue on "Financing a Sustainable Recovery from COVID-19 and Beyond"</u> The policy dialogue is expected to facilitate discussions on financing options to support implementation of the VPoA, especially in the context of COVID-19 and beyond. It will feature interventions from development partners, financial regulatory authorities and governments who will be sharing about trends, measures and innovations in financing that can support recovery efforts and ensure that these recovery efforts are in line with the principles of sustainable development. *Moderator: Mr. Nyingtob Norbu, Economic Affairs Officer, Countries with Special Situations Section, ESCAP* • Presentation *by Mr. Yusuke Tateno, Economic Affairs Officer, Countries with Special Situations Section, ESCAP* • Remarks by discussants - *Ms. Aigul Kusaliyeva, Chief Strategy Officer, Green Finance Center, Astana International Financial Center (AIFC)* - *Ms. Suzy Yoon, Senior Operations Officer, Regional Office for Central Asia, World Bank* - *Mr. Yusif Sofiyev, Chief Adviser, Economic Policy Department, Ministry of Economy of Azerbaijan* - *Mr. Davit Kirakosyan, Program Manager, Central Bank of Armenia* • Open discussion • Concluding remarks