

Statement
of H.E. Amb. Kairat SARYBAY
at the Seventy-ninth session of the UN Economic and Social
Commission for Asia and the Pacific

(Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand, 16 May 2023)

Distinguished Chair,

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to take part in the current session and speak to such a representative audience.

The Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Buildings in Asia, or CICA is a unique consensus-based multilateral platform for enhancing cooperation toward promoting peace, security, and stability in Asia. One of them is CICA's environmental dimension, that does, together with sustainable development, environment protection and natural disaster management priority areas, contribute to the goal of transformation of CICA with an environmental perspective.

Pledging their net zero carbon economy targets, CICA Member States are aware of environmental sustainability.

At this point, the contribution of green transformation to the goals of sustainable development is inevitable, not only from an environmental point of view, but also because it is an inclusive movement from the energy sector, transportation, industry and all consumers.

Various seminars, workshops and online trainings are given as the CICA environmental dimension. Topics generally focused on the green transformation, current problems of the region, circular economy, sustainable development and risk reduction management.

At the Sixth CICA Summit, President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev proposed holding a High-Level Environmental Conference in Astana in 2024 to identify environmental issues among the CICA Member States.

On the path of Environmental Conference, series of CICA expert meetings will be held under the Chairmanship of Kazakhstan with the participation of 28 member states. It will be held to discuss and understand the Members' environmental perspectives, current issues, mitigation and adaptations that need to be made, and to prepare the necessary documents.

Among the expected outcomes of the conference is the decision to establish the CICA Environmental Council. This council will contribute to the countries towards their sustainable development goals and will ensure the synergy between the Members in the green transformation process.

Ladies and gentlemen,

CICA perfectly fits to promoting connectivity across the Asian continent, including strengthening economic, social, environmental and other links between Member States in line with the sustainable development goals.

Combining the efforts of international organizations, in particular CICA and ESCAP and their Member States, our joint work will objectively lead to synergy and bring impressive practical results.

Thank you for your attention.