

## CONCEPT NOTE

[VER. 05.10.2020]

- Event: Third Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean
- Location: VIRTUAL – Broadcasting from United Nations Conference Centre  
(Bangkok, Thailand)
- Date/Time: Thursday, 29 October 2020  
12:00 noon – 14:30 (Bangkok time, ICT, verify your zone [here](#))
- Host(s): United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific  
(ESCAP)

### BACKGROUND

On 21 May 2020, ESCAP member States adopted a resolution on “Strengthening cooperation to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific,” underscoring the importance of the Ocean for the region, and requesting the secretariat “to continue to strengthen current partnerships and to develop new partnerships, where appropriate, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources, including through participatory, multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms.”<sup>1</sup>

In line with this mandate, the secretariat will host its Third Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean to continue to support member States, and key stakeholders, through systematic and inclusive dialogue on priority areas and challenges in our region.

### OBJECTIVE

This event will provide a platform to identify elements for a regional “Decade Program”, currently in preparation by the secretariat, within the scope of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030), and building on virtual consultations that will be organized

---

<sup>1</sup> ESCAP/RES/76/1 of 21 May 2020.

in anticipation for the Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean. The outcomes of the Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean will also provide a regional perspective to inform the 2020 UN Ocean Conference.<sup>2</sup>

## **PROGRAM**

The Third Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean will take place on 29 October 2020 in a virtual modality, broadcasting from the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, Thailand. With the support of partner organizations, the program will offer a plenary discussion and four interactive dialogues, focusing on:

- a) Fostering tourism and fisheries for sustainable development;
- b) Sustainable maritime connectivity;
- c) Ocean accounts, data and statistics;
- d) Solutions for land-based marine pollution

A keynote speech from a high-level speaker will provide an overview of regional challenges and opportunities for the protection and sustainable development of the ocean. This will be followed by four parallel interactive dialogues. These events will consolidate perspectives gathered through virtual consultations organized prior to the Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean, and will support the identification of actionable proposals that can be integrated into the regional Decade Program. Finally, a plenary session will offer a space to collect feedback from each interactive dialogue, to develop a consolidated regional perspective.

## **SPEAKERS/MODERATORS**

- Host(s) and partner organizations co-hosting individual sessions
- Experts participating in the discussions, CSOs, organizations that submitted voluntary commitments

## **TARGET AUDIENCE/PARTICIPANTS**

- Civil Society Organizations (including the youth and ocean protection NGOs)
- Private sector companies
- Students and staff of educational and academic entities
- Scientific community
- Intergovernmental bodies and regional organizations

---

<sup>2</sup> The 2020 United Nations Ocean Conference, which was scheduled to take place from 2 to 6 June in Lisbon, Portugal, has been postponed per decision 74/548 adopted by the General Assembly on Monday, 13 April 2020.



- Local and national governments

#### FORMAT

- The event will be hosted virtually. (via Zoom). Access code/dial-in details will be sent to registered participant 48 hours before the event.
- The plenary sessions will be streamed live via YouTube.
- Participants will be able to choose the interactive dialogue session they want to join. These sessions will be recorded, and links will be shared publicly after the event.

#### WEBSITE

<https://www.unescap.org/events/third-asia-pacific-day-ocean>

#### REGISTRATION

Click [here](#) or scan code to register.

