

## Thailand's intervention for ESCAP 79<sup>th</sup> Session

### Agenda item 4 (a): Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

On Thursday 18 May 2023, at 10.00 hrs. (tbc)

Mr./Madame Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

- Thailand highly values the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) as a **multi-stakeholder platform** for follow up and review of **the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, as well as **the Sustainable Development Goals** in the Asia-Pacific region.
- The Discussions at the APFSD about the SDG goals under review are especially beneficial as they help in taking stock of the progress being made and the remaining challenges of the region. The Discussions at the APFSD therefore complement and help strengthen implementation efforts at both national and regional levels.
- With the approaching timeframe of 2030 and against the backdrop of a multitude of challenges, Thailand would like to emphasise **three issues** mentioned at this year's APFSD.
- First, to accelerate post-pandemic recovery and reinvigorate momentum for SDG implementation, we need to ensure that sustainable development is both **balanced and inclusive**. Thailand has long applied our homegrown **Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP)** and is promoting **the Bio-Circular-Green Economy Model**, which aims to do exactly that, which is to ensure more balanced and inclusive development, while protecting and preserving the planet.
- Second, Thailand advocates for **closer cooperation between the UN and regional and sub-regional organisations**, such as ASEAN. Greater synergies among the UN agencies, and between regional commissions and sub-regional organisations will help strengthen the work of the UN development system as well as development efforts in the region in general.
- Third, the **mobilisation of and engagement with all stakeholders at all level is critical** for SDG implementation. Development cooperation and assistance should be provided to countries as appropriate. Without stronger partnerships, SDGs will not be realized for many of us.
- Thailand looks forward to a results-oriented SDG Summit this September, which will serve as a **springboard for enhancing partnerships and accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda**. We are determined to do our part, and will participate actively at that forum.
- In concluding, Thailand strongly hopes that the discussions at this year's APFSD will be meaningfully reflected and built upon at both the HLPF in July and the SDG Summit this September.
- Thank you.

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