COLLECTIVE STATEMENT REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL

The Asia and the Pacific region continues to feel the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, manifested in the biggest cost-of-living crisis of the century. The resulting multidimensional challenges and pressures have mostly affected people with the least resources and opportunities. None of the region’s climate ambitions are realisable without the provision of new, additional, adequate, and predictable climate finance by countries with stronger economies, more fiscal space, and greater historical responsibility for climate change. These intersect with pre-existing inequalities, further amplifying the disempowerment and marginalisation of communities of Indigenous Peoples, women and children, rural and urban poor, smallholder and landless farmers, workers, fisherfolk, LGBTQIA, people living with HIV/AIDS, people living in conflict and disaster, youth, elderly, migrants, persons with disabilities, Dalits, and peoples discriminated based on work and descent.

We call for:

● Strengthen Regional Cooperation to facilitate cross-border collaboration, development of regional mechanisms for accountability, and support for regional CSO networks to advocate for collective action.

● Strengthen regional/sub regional institutions to develop national oversight, planning, implementation, review and reporting capacities.

● States must ensure a sustainable redress of the cost of living crisis, exploitation, income inequality and inflation as well as provision of social security to lift people out of poverty.

● Governments of origin and destination countries must ensure social protection for all migrants, incorporating access to health care, day care for migrants' children, inclusion of social security and pension funds.

● Governments must resist and regulate trade agreements and its impacts to local markets to ensure accountability through effective regulatory mechanisms.

● Complement measures and programs with strategic policies that address the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition.

● Demand public financing for SDG stimulus packages that prioritise inclusion of the most marginalised segments, and young people, to accelerate the pace of transformative economic, social and environmental change towards just, equitable and sustainable development.

● Allocate adequate resources, technology transfer, and training to strengthen statistical commissions for disaggregated data collection to make the invisible visible.