

# Expert group meeting: “Regional Cooperation to protect our Common Environment”

**22-23 June 2022**

22 June: 10:00 am to 12:30 pm Bangkok time (GMT+7)

23 June: 10:00 am to 13:00 pm Bangkok time (GMT+7)

## Background

In Asia and the Pacific, resource-intensive growth has pushed many natural systems beyond the point of irreversible damage, leading to ecosystem degradation and climate disruption, compromising a clean, healthy and sustainable environment for all and undermining sustainable development.

To fulfil the human right to a clean and healthy environment and preserve the sustainability of the planet for the prosperity of all, societies across the region must redefine their relationship with nature and shift to greener, more resilient and sustainable development pathways.

Stronger regional cooperation is imperative to protect our common environment. Such collaboration should be based on effective international environmental governance and multilateral processes, as well as coordinated and complementary actions for addressing climate change, ecosystem degradation including of the marine environment, unsustainable urban development as well as pollution and waste.

This expert group meeting is organised in the lead up a consultation process for the 7th Committee on Environment and Development at ministerial level.

## Objectives

The Expert Group Meeting will discuss opportunities for regional collaboration on air pollution, climate change, ocean and marine ecosystems, sustainable cities and rights-based approaches to environmental protection, in order to inform consultations on the Ministerial Declaration and Regional Modality on Air Pollution and member States deliberations at the 7<sup>th</sup> Committee on Environment and Development.

## Participants

Member States and associate members have been invited to nominate senior representatives of environment ministries or authorities familiar with some of the five thematic discussion areas ,



including experts working on air pollution. Experts from think tanks and international organizations have also been invited to enrich the discussion.

## **Meeting modalities**

This meeting will be held online, using KUDO, with interpretation in Russian and Chinese.



## Programme 22 June 2022

Timing		Speaker
10:00-10:25	<p>Opening and setting the scene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome remarks</li> <li>- Presentation by Secretariat</li> </ul>	<p>Mr. Sangmin Nam, Director, Environment and Development Division (EDD), ESCAP</p> <p>TBC</p>
10:25-11:10	<p>Perspectives on value of regional collaboration for the protection of our common environment in Asia and the Pacific</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Panel discussion</li> <li>- Open discussion</li> </ul>	<p>Mr. Taholo Kami, Kami Pasifiki Solutions - Pacific Thinking, Global Issues (former Pacific regional IUCN Head, former Ocean envoy of Fiji)</p> <p>Ms Ludmila Kiktenko, Environment Management Program Manager, Regional Environment Centre for Central Asia</p> <p>Ms. Suk-kyung Shim, Member of the UNESCO International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves</p> <p>Mrs. Shiqiu Zhang, Professor of Environmental Economics and Director of the Institute of Environment and Economy, Peking University</p>
11:10-12:30	<p>Opportunities for regional collaboration on air pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Regional perspectives</li> <li>-Open discussion</li> </ul>	<p>Ms. Dechen Tsering, Director, Asia and the Pacific Office, UNEP</p>
12: 30	Closing of day 1	Mr. Sangmin Nam, Director, EDD, ESCAP



## Programme 23 June 2022

Timing	Agenda item	Speaker
10:00 – 10:10	Reflection on Day 1, and quick overview on Day 2	Mr. Sangmin Nam, Director, EDD, ESCAP
10:10-10:50	Regional collaboration on greenhouse gases emission reduction commitments and targets  -Regional perspectives  -Open discussion	Mr. Bill Hare, CEO, Climate Analytics
10:50-11:30	Strengthening regional collaboration for the protection and sustainable management of the ocean  -Regional perspectives  -Open discussion	
11:30-12:10	Opportunities for regional collaboration on sustainable cities  -Regional perspectives  -Open discussion	Ms. Norliza Hashim, CEO, Urbanice Malaysia  Ms. Bernadia Tjandradewi, Secretary General, UCLG ASPA
12:10-12:50	Opportunities for regional collaboration on rights-based approaches to environmental protection  -Regional perspectives  -Open discussion	Ms. Amara Pongsapich, Thai delegate to AIHRC
12:50-13:00	Closing of the meeting	Mr. Sangmin Nam, Director, EDD, ESCAP

