Expert Group Meeting for APTIR 2023/2024
“Unleashing digital trade and investment for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific”

30 August 2023, Online, 14.00-16.00 hours (UTC+7)

The objective of the meeting is to seek expert opinions on the preliminary draft of the 2023 Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report (APTIR) titled "Unleashing Digital Trade and Investment for Sustainable Development." This report, collaboratively undertaken by ESCAP, UNCTAD, and UNIDO, examines the potential and roles of digital trade and investment in advancing the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development within the Asia-Pacific region. Furthermore, it underscores the importance of regional collaboration to maximize this potential.

**Tentative Programme**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14.00-14.15</td>
<td><strong>Opening and brief overview of APTIR 2023/2024</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ms. Rupa Chanda, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP&lt;br&gt;Ms. Witada Anukoonwattaka, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCAP</td>
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<td>14.15-15.00</td>
<td><strong>Digital trade and investment: An analytical framework and trends in flows and policies</strong>&lt;br&gt;Lead discussants:&lt;br&gt;Ms. Mia Mikic, Advisor At Large, ARTNeT (chapter 1)&lt;br&gt;Mr. Jong Woo Kang, Director, Regional Cooperation and Integration Division, ADB (chapter 1)&lt;br&gt;Ms. Silvia Sorescu, Policy Analyst, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD (chapter 2)&lt;br&gt;Ms. Tiziana Bonapace, Director, Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, ESCAP (chapter 3)&lt;br&gt;Ms. Jane Drake-Brockman, Executive Director, Australian Services Roundtable (chapter 3)&lt;br&gt;Ms. Deborah Elms, Founder and Executive Director, Asian Trade Centre (chapter 4)&lt;br&gt;Mr. Henry Gao, Professor of Law, SMU (chapter 4)&lt;br&gt;<strong>Open discussion</strong></td>
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### Part II enhancing linkages between digital trade/ investment and sustainable development (15.00-15.45)

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Lead Discussants</th>
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| 15.00-15.45 | **Promoting sustainable development through digital trade and FDI**         | Ms. Youlia Lozanova, Senior Analyst, Policy and Regulation, ITU (chapter 5)  
Ms. Kimberley Botwright, Head, Sustainable Trade, WEF (chapter 5)  
Ms. Premila Nazareth Satyanand, Consultant, ESCAP (chapter 6)  
Mr. Matthew Stephenson, Head, Investment Policy and Practice, WEF (chapter 6)  
Mr. Xie Taojun, Senior Research Fellow and Assistant Director (Research), NUS (chapter 7)  
**Open discussion**                                                                                           |

**Guiding questions for the open discussion**

- Sections need to be trimmed or removed to enhance the report’s succinctness.
- Elements missing from the report that need to be incorporated, considering the expected length.
- Key policy recommendations from individual chapters to be emphasized in the “Way Forward” chapter.