Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Bangkok

The statement of the Islamic Republic of Iran delivered by
H.E. Dr. Nasserddin Heidari, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to UN ESCAP
Under agenda item 2(b)
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بسمه الله الرحمن الرحیم

Mr. Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,

It is my honor to attend at the subregional dialogue of the 81st Commission session with focus on opportunities for an inclusive and sustainable development to contribute to the region's social, economic and environmental transitions.

Economic diplomacy of the Islamic Republic of Iran attaches increasing importance on regional and multilateral mechanisms and expresses its readiness to expand ties with other countries in key fields such as energy, new technologies and transit. Islamic Republic of Iran attaches great importance to improving international corridors to achieve sustainable development in freight transport and transit.

Many countries in our region are facing challenges to achieve sustainable development, due to increasing vulnerability to environmental challenges especially transboundary hazards including sand and dust storms (SDS) which are significant environmental hazards in Western Asia, South Asia and Central Asia.

The transboundary nature of SDS requires unified and coherent action to facilitate capacity building, raise awareness and enhance preparedness and response to SDS in countries of our region.

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To support the UN Coalition on Combating Sand and Dust Storms which is led by UNESCAP and its sister commission, ESCWA for the 2025 to 2026 term, the Islamic Republic of Iran, encourage all regional organizations and relevant stakeholder who are interested to contribute to the implementation of the UN Decade on Combating Sand and Dust Storms (2025-2034) to consider joining the UN Coalition.

If insufficient collective action is taken, the effects could become catastrophic: mass displacement, food and water insecurity and civil unrest, to name but a few.

Moreover, countries' National Plans need to be complemented with cross-border collaboration. We need greater understanding of these complex risks in order to shift international finance towards "inclusive resilience" that enhances resilience at all levels: local, national, regional and global.

Such an approach will require supporting long-term cooperation between countries. It will demand a broader set of multilateral organizations recognize resilience as within their mandates, and the development of innovative solutions and financial instruments.

I thank you