STATEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

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Ambassador of the Philippines to Thailand and
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Agenda Item 11: Adoption of the Report

The Philippines extends its sincere appreciation to all ESCAP Member States for their support for the adoption of the resolution on *Advancing the Sustainable Development of Middle-Income Countries in Asia and the Pacific*.

The resolution is the outcome of extensive consultations. We are deeply grateful for the constructive spirit in which the delegations engaged throughout the negotiations. This collaborative approach fostered widespread support for a resolution that embodies our collective aspirations and shared commitment to the sustainable development of all Member States, including Middle-Income Countries.

We acknowledge that some delegations could not fully endorse consensus on the resolution. Nonetheless, we remain committed and open to continued engagement with all partners in the spirit of dialogue and partnership.

We would like to thank the Ambassador of Bangladesh, His Excellency Faiyaz Murshid Kazi and Ms. Cataleya Phatoomros, Deputy Director-General for International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions, respectively, for their steady and able stewardship throughout the consultations on the text. We also acknowledge the valuable assistance provided by the ESCAP Secretariat during the negotiations.

This resolution is a milestone for ESCAP. It sets a clear path forward for enhanced regional cooperation and dialogue that addresses the specific challenges, concerns, and needs of Middle-Income Countries. Furthermore, the resolution emphasizes the essential role these nations play in both global and regional development, including through South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

The Philippines looks forward to continuing close collaboration with all ESCAP Member States and stakeholders as we put this resolution into action. We are particularly privileged to host the High-Level Conference of Middle-Income Countries in Manila next week, which will serve as a platform for dialogue, solidarity, and renewed regional partnerships on this significant initiative.

Thank you.