PHILIPPINE STATEMENT

81st Commission Session of the United Nations
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)
23 April 2025
Bangkok, Thailand

Agenda item 2: Current and emerging policy issues for inclusive and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific

Agenda item 2 (b): Subregional perspectives[1]

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

The Philippines reaffirms its strong commitment to inclusive and sustainable development, and welcomes the deepening cooperation between ESCAP and ASEAN.

ASEAN and the UN's partnership continues to evolve meaningfully, particularly through the Complementarities Initiative between the mutually reinforcing ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We welcome the important work done between ASEAN and ESCAP to advance the SDGs in ASEAN through dialogue, capacity building, and technical cooperation across critical areas such as climate finance, trade and investment, women's economic empowerment, and sustainable transportation. We also look forward to cooperation on digital innovation and transformation, disaster risk reduction, and humanitarian assistance.

[1] Inputs: ESCAP Activities in support of ASEAN

The Philippines also supports strengthened collaboration in promoting renewable energy and regional energy connectivity to enable a just and inclusive energy transition.

We appreciate ESCAP's support for the ASEAN Regional Investment Promotion Plan, which will promote ASEAN as a unified destination for sustainable investment, accelerate green transition, and drive inclusive and resilient economic growth.

The ASEAN Community Vision 2045—set to be adopted this year—places sustainability, resilience, innovation, and inclusivity at the heart of our regional agenda. As the Philippines assumes the Chairship of ASEAN in 2026, we recognize that effective partnerships will be key to driving forward the implementation of this Vision in its inaugural year. ASEAN's continued collaboration with ESCAP and the broader UN system will be vital to translate our regional aspirations into action and accelerate SDG implementation towards 2030.

The Philippines shall continue working closely with and through ASEAN and ESCAP to shape a more sustainable future that leaves no one behind.

Thank you.