Accelerating climate-smart trade and investment for sustainable development: Global Launch of Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2021
11 October 2021
Hybrid mode: Room W, Geneva, Switzerland & virtual link

**Background**
The purpose of the meeting is to discuss accelerating climate-smart trade and investment for sustainable development based on the new Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2021 on this topic, jointly prepared by ESCAP, UNCTAD and UNEP. Climate action has been designated by the UN Secretary General as both a priority and a driver of the decade. To address the worsening climate crisis, there is a need for trade and investment policies that can more directly support reducing GHG emissions, while preserving trade and investment as key engines of growth and sustainable development.
Tentative Programme

10:00 – 10:10  **Opening remarks**  
• Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, ESCAP Executive Secretary  
• H.E. Mr. Damien O’Connor, New Zealand’s Minister for Trade and Export Growth and H.E. Mr. James Shaw, New Zealand’s Minister of Climate Change.  
• Mr. Tipu Munshi, MP, Honourable Minister, Ministry of Commerce, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

10:10 – 10:30  **APTIR 2021: Overview of APTIR 2021 and Main Findings**  
• Mr. Yann Duval, Chief of Trade Policy and Facilitation, ESCAP

10:30 – 11:25  **Panel discussion on accelerating climate-smart trade and investment**  
Moderated by Mr. Aik Hoe Lim, Director, Trade and Environment, WTO  
• **Discussants:**  
  o Ms. Clare Kelly, Assistant Secretary and WTO Permanent Representative-designate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand  
  o H.E. Ms. Pimchanok Vonkorpon Pitfield, Ambassador and permanent representative of Thailand to the WTO and WIPO  
  o Mr. Noor Md. Mahbubul Haq, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Bangladesh  
  o Mr. Bud Darr, Executive Vice President, Maritime Policy and Government Affairs, MSC GROUP  
  o Ms. Shamika Sirimanne, Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD  
  o Mr. Steven Stone, Chief, Resources and Markets Branch, Economy Division, UNEP

Q & A

11:25 – 11:30  **Closing remarks**  
• Ms. Rupa Chanda, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP

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1 For the version of the latest programme, please go to [https://www.unescap.org/events/2021/APTIR2021_Launch](https://www.unescap.org/events/2021/APTIR2021_Launch)