



Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat

**Secretary-General OU Boqian's Remarks at the  
Subregional Perspectives on "A Common agenda to advance sustainable  
development in Asia and the Pacific"**

**May 25, 2022**

**10:00-12:00 (GMT+7)**

**Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana,**

**Distinguished delegates,**

It is a great pleasure for me to attend the 78th ESCAP Commission Session. First of all, my sincere congratulations to ESCAP for its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I am very delighted to have this opportunity to join the fellow sub-regional organizations in Asia and the Pacific for the discussion on advancing sustainable development in the region.

ESCAP is the most inclusive intergovernmental platform in the Asia-Pacific region, and has consolidated voice of Asia and the Pacific on the most important development issues in the past 75 years. The sub-regional dialogue launched at the 75<sup>th</sup> Commission session has been an important platform for sub-regional organizations to exchange views and practices, and to advocate cooperation in sustainable development.

Cooperation of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (ROK) was incepted in 1999. In more than 20 years, the Trilateral Cooperation has turned into a genuinely institutionalized framework, with the Trilateral Summit Meeting as the pivot, the 21 Ministerial Meetings as the pillars, over 70 working-level consultations and dialogues as the foundation, and more than 100 projects as its outcomes.

The three countries have been cooperating closely on regional sustainable development, covering areas of environmental protection, disaster management, health, agriculture, forestry, and water resources. In the Trilateral Cooperation Vision for the Next Decade which was launched at the 8<sup>th</sup> Trilateral Summit in 2019, the three governments reaffirmed their commitment to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Since its establishment in 2011, Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat has participated in tripartite ministers meetings in the above mentioned sustainable development areas and conducted follow-up projects. TCS has been working closely with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders in the three countries to provide exchanges and cooperation among youth, academia, think tanks, and media. We strive to promote lasting peace, common prosperity, and shared culture among the three countries.

TCS attaches great importance to sustainable development. ESCAP has been TCS' valuable regional partner in implementing the most pressing sustainable development agendas.

Not long after the COVID-19 broke out, TCS and ESCAP co-hosted a webinar on "Managing COVID-19 Pandemic", disseminated experiences and best practices of China, Japan and the ROK. It was a timely and valuable learning opportunity not only for the three countries but also for other states across the world, and it resulted in participation from over 70 countries. TCS hopes to continue working with ESCAP on health related topics.

Recognizing climate change has become a critical issue that the world needs to co-address, China, Japan, and the ROK have firmly committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2060 and 2050 respectively. To advocate carbon neutrality endeavors of the three countries, TCS, ESCAP and UN Executive Office of the Secretary-General jointly hosted the first Forum on Carbon Neutrality in November 2021, and we look forward to having the second one later this year.

Distinguished delegates, the world is undergoing profound changes and calls for closer collaboration of the global community. I believe that regional and sub-regional organizations have a special role in this context because we represent multilateralism and cooperation. I appreciate ESCAP being a leading entity in the

region in pursuing collective solutions to sustainable development challenges. TCS will continue to cooperate with ESCAP and other regional organizations present today to advance sustainable development in the region. Thank you!